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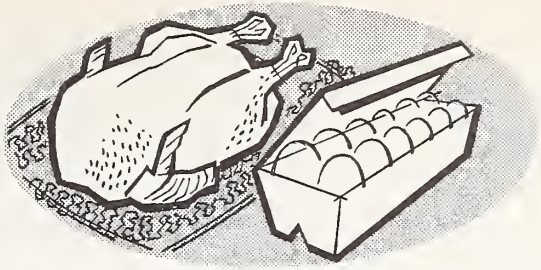
POULTRY and EGG SITUATION



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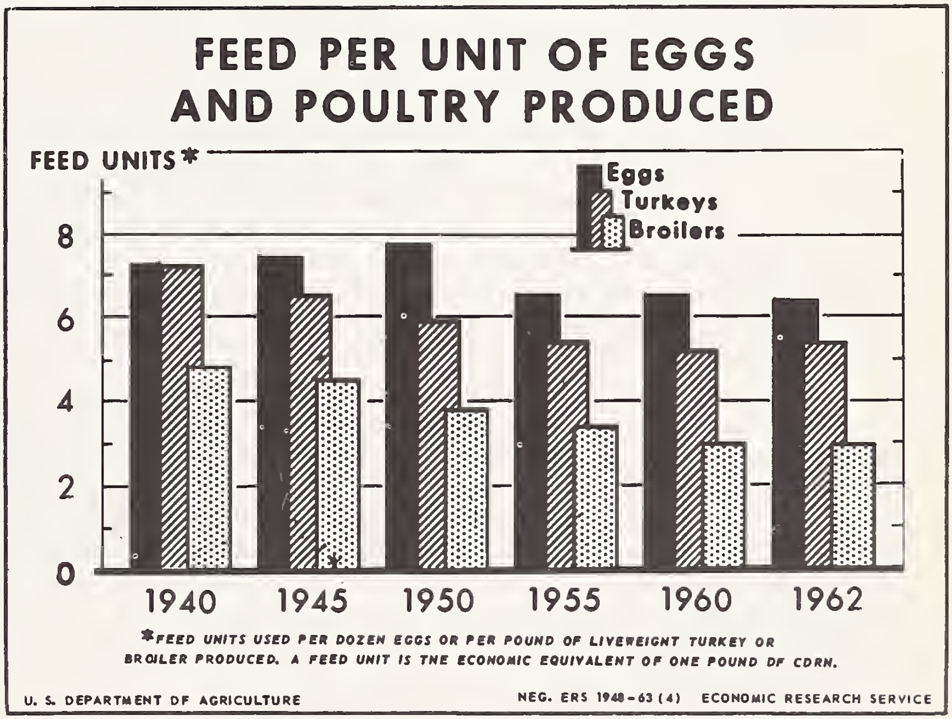

FEED PER UNIT OF EGGS AND POULTRY PRODUCED

*FEED UNITS USED PER DOZEN EGGS OR PER POUND OF LIVEWEIGHT TURKEY OR BROILER PRODUCED. A FEED UNIT IS THE ECONOMIC EQUIVALENT OF ONE POUND OF CORN.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. ERS 1948-63 (4) ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

It now requires much less feed to produce a pound of poultry or a dozen eggs than 2 decades ago. Credit for this improvement goes to advances in nutrition, genetics, disease control, and production practices. Most progress has been made in broilers; the least in eggs. By reducing the cost of production, improved efficiency in feeding has helped to bring about lower prices to consumers. Producers benefited because of larger production and use of poultry and eggs.

IN THIS ISSUE

Cycles In Broilers

Federal-State Egg Grading Program

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THE POULTRY AND EGG SITUATION AT A GLANCE

Item	Unit	Month or date	Average 1952-61	1962	1963	Month or date	Average 1952-61	1962	1963	Comments on current situation
					EGGS					
Farm production	Mil.cases	May	15.5	15.9	15.9	June	13.8	14.7	14.7	Back up to year-earlier level in second quarter
Average number of layers on farms	Mil.	May	294.1	289.7	290.6	June	283.9	283.8	285.9	
Rate of lay per layer	Eggs	May	19.0	19.7	19.7	June	17.5	18.6	18.6	
Apparent disappearance, shell eggs per civilian	Eggs	Apr.	28.5	25.0	24.0	May	27.7	24.1	24.0	
Frozen egg production	Mil. lb.	Apr.	58.3	47.2	56.8	May	67.3	64.4	61.4	
Dried egg production	Mil. lb.	Apr.	3.7	6.1	4.0	May	4.0	7.8	7.6	
Price received by farmers	Ct.per doz.	May	34.3	29.0	29.5	June	33.9	28.4	29.5	Price prospects now brighter for second half
Price received by farmers as a percentage of parity	Pct.	May	81	69	70	June	79	69	71	
Retail price (ERS)	Ct.per doz.	Apr.	54.2	49.5	53.5	May	52.6	47.4	47.4	
Egg-feed price ratio	Lb. feed	May	9.3	8.5	8.4	June	9.2	8.3	8.3	
Stocks:										
Shell	Thous.cases	June 1	1,367	319	200	July 1	1,545	397	280	
Frozen	Mil. lb.	June 1	133.1	84.8	82.7	July 1	159.9	110.8	102.2	
Replacement chicks hatched	Mil.	May	---	83.5	80.7	June	---	38.8	41.7	Fewer hatched than in 1962 in first 6 months
Farm price of poultry ration	Dol.per cwt	May	3.68	3.42	3.53	June	3.64	3.43	3.54	
					POULTRY					
Price received by farmers for chickens, live										
Broilers	Ct. per lb.	May	21.1	14.3	14.8	June	21.3	14.2	14.4	Substantially lower prices likely by year end
Farm chickens	Ct. per lb.	May	17.3	10.3	10.0	June	16.4	9.7	9.8	
All chickens	Ct. per lb.	May	20.4	13.9	14.4	June	20.3	13.8	14.0	
Price received by farmers for all chickens as a percentage of parity	Pct.	May	71	57	61	June	71	55	59	
Retail price of broilers and fryers ready-to-cook (ERS)	Ct. per lb.	Apr.	50.4	40.2	40.3	May	49.0	39.6	39.7	
Price received by farmers for turkeys, live	Ct. per lb.	May	27.6	20.6	21.6	June	26.9	20.0	21.8	About a 93 to 94 million bird turkey crop in prospect this year
Stocks:										
Poultry, excluding turkeys	Mil. lb.	June 1	88.8	88.1	88.9	July 1	88.7	83.9	88.4	
Turkeys	Mil. lb.	June 1	71.1	131.9	96.0	July 1	66.4	121.2	90.1	
Broiler-feed price ratio	Lb. feed	May	4.1	3.1	3.1	June	4.2	3.1	3.0	
Turkey-feed price ratio	Lb. feed	May	7.5	6.0	6.1	June	7.3	5.8	6.2	
Average weekly placement of chicks in 22 important States	Mil.	May	---	43.2	45.9	June	---	41.0	43.9	Broiler supplies likely to be up from a year earlier by 5 to 10 percent in third quarter

THE POULTRY AND EGG SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, July 23, 1963

CONTENTS

Page

Summary 3
Situation and Outlook 5
  Broiler Production Responds to Price Changes 5
  Depressed Prices in Prospect for Broilers 6
  Recent and Prospective Changes in West German Levies Against U. S. Broilers 7
  U. S. Poultry Exports Reduced 8
  Farmers to Raise Fewer Replacement Chickens in 1963 9
  Supply-Price Relationship Encouraging for Eggs 9
  Fourth-Quarter Egg Price Prospects Brighten 10
  Outlook for Turkeys Little Different from 1962 11
The Cycles In Broilers 13
  The Cycles in Broiler Production and Prices 13
  Downward Adjustments in Broiler Production Made Via Hatchery Supply Flocks 15
  Demand for Broilers Appears to Increase in Spurts 16
  Intermediate Cutbacks in Broiler Production 18
Recent Changes In The Federal-State Egg Grading Program 19
  Quality Control Program Established 19
  Haugh Units Lowered in 1959 for AA Quality Eggs 20
  Higher Minimum Moving Averages Go Into Effect August 1 20
List of Tables 43

SUMMARY

Broiler production was quite responsive to price and cost changes during the past 12 months. Particularly significant was the cutback in chick placements last winter in response to lower broiler prices and higher feed costs. This cutback also seems related to a temporary reduction in the broiler industry's ability to produce, which occurred during and after the extremely depressed broiler prices of June-November 1961.

However, a significant buildup is taking place now in the Nation's broiler hatching-egg supply flocks. If this expansion continues, it may bring about an expansion in broiler production and depressed prices late this year and early next year. Because of the great number of pullet chicks added to hatchery supply flocks in recent months, indications are that the number of layers in these flocks by November will be 10 percent greater than a year earlier. The indicated

number in January 1963 was 6 to 8 percent less than a year earlier. Breeders' sales of pullet chicks were up from the 1962 level by 22 percent in April, 40 percent in May, and 37 percent in June.

The buildup in hatchery supply flocks will make it extremely difficult for the industry to reduce output when prices become unfavorable. This is because these flocks, once a cyclical upswing is underway, continue to expand for several months after broiler prices turn down. It takes time to begin a downward adjustment, and the number of new layers added to these flocks continues to increase because of pullet chick placements already made.

The increased supply of hatching eggs over the 1962 level already is going into expanded hatchery activity. Because of the recent spurt in hatchery output and egg settings, broiler slaughter in the third quarter is expected to be about 5 to 10 percent greater than in the same period of 1962. In contrast, in the second quarter, the liveweight of federally-inspected young chicken slaughter was about the same as a year earlier.

June prices received for broilers by U. S. growers averaged 14.4 cents per pound, 0.4 cent less than a month earlier but 0.2 cent higher than in June 1962. Broilers were quoted on July 19 at about 13½ cents per pound in important Southeastern producing areas. These quotations were about ½ cent higher than a month earlier but about 1 cent lower than a year earlier. Increased supplies of broilers and red meats during the third quarter are likely to hold broiler prices somewhat lower than in the year-earlier quarter, when prices averaged 15.6 cents per pound.

Egg prices to U. S. producers in the first half of 1963 averaged 33.6 cents per dozen, compared with 32.5 cents a year earlier. Prices were somewhat higher than would ordinarily be expected, considering that January-May supplies of eggs available for consumption, exports in the shell, and Government purchases were 1 percent greater than a year earlier. The duration of increased prices in the first half, however, is too short to conclude that the downtrend in egg demand is leveling out. The higher prices may be an indication that part of the egg marketing costs are being transferred to egg producers. This reflects the rapid changes in the structure and organization of the industry.

Egg prices received by U. S. producers in mid-June averaged 29.5 cents a dozen, the same as in May but 1.1 cents per dozen higher than a year earlier. Egg prices have passed the low point for the year and are rising because of seasonally declining production. Quotations for eggs at the farm on July 19 were up from mid-June by mostly 2 to 4 cents per dozen for large eggs and up 1 to 3 cents for medium-sized eggs.

Farmers are expected to raise only 314 million farm chickens for laying-flock replacements this year, 1 percent fewer than in 1962. This may not be enough to maintain the number of layers at the 1962 level throughout the second half of 1963. However, the Nation's laying flock probably will be again about as large as a year earlier by the end of 1963 because of an expected significant increase in the out-of-season hatch of egg-type chicks.

Egg output in the second quarter was about the same as in April-June last year. July 1 egg output was up 1 percent from a year earlier because of a greater number of layers. Egg production and prices in the second half are not expected to be materially different from a year earlier. Previously, production was expected to be a little higher than in 1962 and prices significantly lower.

This year's turkey crop is expected to total about 93 to 94 million birds, up from last year's 92.3 million. This year began with much smaller stocks of frozen turkey than a year earlier, so movement from storage has been slower this year. Turkey prices have been slightly higher and there has been greater price competition from red meats and broilers.

On July 1 there were 90 million pounds of frozen turkey in storage, compared with 121 million a year earlier. By September 1, the beginning of the main marketing season, frozen turkey stocks will probably be rebuilt close to the year-earlier level of 160 million pounds. Turkey supplies in September-December likely will be about as large as in the same months last year. However, per capita consumption of turkey for 1963 will probably be down to 6.8 pounds (ready-to-cook weight) from 7.1 pounds in 1962 because of reduced use earlier in the year and because of population growth.

SITUATION AND OUTLOOK

Broiler Production Responds to Price Changes

In the second half of 1962 and the first half of 1963, broiler producers were unusually responsive to short-run changes in prices and costs. This responsiveness, particularly to downward changes, appears to be related to the fact that the broiler industry's ability to produce, especially the number of layers in broiler hatching-egg supply flocks, was greatly reduced following the extremely depressed broiler prices of June-November 1961. However, a buildup in the Nation's broiler hatching-egg supply flock is underway and is the subject of the next section. Also see special article on page 13 "The Cycles in Broilers."

The number of layers in broiler hatching-egg supply flocks was indicated to be smaller in the second half of last year than a year before. However, 16 percent more broiler chicks were hatched in September-December 1962 than in the same months of 1961 as hatcherymen set lighter eggs and kept layers producing longer in hatching-egg supply flocks. In the first 8 months of 1962, the chick hatch stayed close to the 1961 level. Increased chick production in the last 4 months of 1962 was stimulated by the continuation of relatively high broiler prices after May 1962. Broiler prices received by U. S. producers in June-November 1962 averaged 15.0 cents per pound, compared with 12.3 cents in the same period of 1961 when prices were driven down to record-low levels.

The expanded chick production in late 1962 led to substantially larger slaughter of young chickens in November 1962-February 1963 than a year earlier. Federally-inspected slaughter of young chickens (liveweight) was up from a year earlier by 12 percent in November, 17 percent in December, 24 percent in January, and 10 percent in February. Because of this increase, the large seasonal rise in broiler prices usually occurring between the fourth and the first quarter did not fully materialize in 1962-63, and broiler prices were below a year earlier in December and continued lower through March. In the first quarter of 1963 liveweight slaughter of young chickens was up 11 percent from January-March 1962; average prices to producers, at 15.3 cents per pound, were 1.1 cents lower.

Reduced prices in combination with higher feed and chick costs made broiler production much less profitable in late 1962 and early 1963 than a year earlier. Consequently, broiler chick production in the first 4 months of 1963 was reduced to the 1962 level, and Federally-inspected slaughter in the second quarter was the same as in April-June 1962. Prices received by U. S. broiler producers in the second quarter averaged 14.9 cents per pound, compared with 14.4 cents in the same period last year.

In the entire first half of 1963, federally-inspected slaughter of young chickens was about 5 percent greater than in the same period of 1962. Prices to producers for broilers during these months averaged 15.1 cents per pound--0.3 cent lower than a year earlier. Considering the more abundant supplies of red meat this year than last and the apparent sharp reduction from 1962 in broiler exports in the second quarter, broiler prices were well maintained.

The number of broiler-chick placements began increasing above the year-earlier level in April. In May and June, weekly chick placements and egg settings ran 5 to 9 percent above comparable weeks of 1962. Young chicken slaughter in the third quarter likely will show a similar increase. The expansion in output seems to result partly from higher broiler prices in April-June than a year earlier and also reflects the beginning of an expansion in the broiler hatching-egg supply flock.

June prices received for broilers by U. S. growers averaged 14.4 cents per pound, 0.4 cent less than a month earlier but 0.2 cent higher than in June 1962. And on July 19, broilers were being quoted mostly at 13½ cents per pound in important Southeastern producing areas. At this level the quotations were about ½ cent higher than a month earlier and about 1 cent lower than a year earlier. In July-September, larger supplies of broilers and red meats are likely to hold broiler prices somewhat lower than in the year-earlier quarter when prices averaged 15.6 cents per pound.

Depressed Prices in Prospect for Broilers

A significant buildup is taking place in the Nation's broiler hatching-egg supply flocks. If this trend continues, an expansion in broiler production, leading to depressed prices, probably will occur late this year and early next year.

A similar buildup in hatching-egg supply flocks accompanied the overproduction and disastrously low prices during much of 1961. The broiler hatching-egg supply flock at the start of 1961 was indicated to be about the same size as in January 1960, but by late summer it was 27 percent larger. Greatly expanded output beginning in February 1961 dropped prices to record-low levels. By June, prices had fallen below 13 cents per pound where they remained for 6 consecutive months--averaging 26 percent lower than in the same period a year earlier. In important Southern producing areas, farm prices at times fell below 11 cents per pound during June-November 1961.

In recent years, the broiler industry has been fortunate in having an "Early Warning System" to indicate changes in the hatching-egg supply flock several months before the changes actually occur. The warning system was made possible by the development of a USDA statistical series dating back to 1956, entitled: "Placements of Pullet Chicks for Hatchery Supply Flocks."

Table 1 indicates that the expansionary phase in the number of layers producing hatching eggs will be well underway by November. Indications are that by November there will be 10 percent more of these layers on hand than a year earlier. In January 1963 the indicated number was 6 to 8 percent less than a year earlier. Contributing to this trend are the great increases in the number of pullet chicks added to broiler hatching-egg supply flocks in recent months. Such additions were up from a year earlier by 22 percent in April, 40 percent in May, and 37 percent in June. If the trend continues, a great expansion in broiler production will occur. This could lead to a prolonged period of extremely depressed broiler prices late in 1963 and especially in early 1964.

To avoid such a situation, the broiler industry could begin to reduce, the number of layers added to supply flocks at least to year-earlier levels. This may require the diversion to slaughter of some pullet chicks already started. Further, the industry could delay enlarging capacity to produce and market broilers.

As mentioned earlier, the increasing supply of hatching eggs above the 1962 level already is being used to expand hatchery activity. Because of the recent spurt in hatchery output and egg settings, broiler slaughter in the third quarter is expected to be about 5 to 10 percent greater than in the same period of 1962. In the second quarter, the liveweight of federally-inspected slaughter of young chickens was about the same as a year earlier.

Recent and Prospective Changes in West German Levies Against U. S. Broilers

There have been a number of changes recently in the numerous levies that jointly fix the total charges against U. S. poultry exports to West Germany. Duties against U. S. broilers now total 13.5 cents per pound, compared with 14.2 cents during most of June, 12.6 cents late last year, and 4 to 5 cents before the EEC regulations went into effect.

The supplemental levy, instituted late in 1962 in lieu of enforcing the provisions of the gate price, was raised on June 6 from 2.27 cents per pound to 3.40 cents. This levy was reduced subsequently to 2.72 cents following a decision of the EEC Council of Ministers on June 21. The Council is composed of ministers from each of the EEC countries and it makes the ultimate decisions with respect to the Common Agricultural Policy on poultry.

The EEC Council, acting on a commission proposal to reduce the gate price and supplemental levy, reduced only the feed-conversion factor used in establishing the gate price. However, they reduced it by only one half the amount recommended by the Commission or to 2.5 from 2.6 pounds of feed per pound of broiler produced. It authorized the EEC Commission and the Poultry Committee to decide if the supplemental levy would be lowered by the same amount (0.68 cent per pound). The Commission subsequently announced that the reduction also would apply to the supplemental levy, thus affecting a reduction in the overall levy. The Commission has executive functions; it studies and recommends actions to the Council and makes minor administrative decisions.

The Council has decided to postpone computation of the feed grain component of the variable levy and announcement of the total variable levy until August 1, due to some delay in setting the internal "target prices" for feed grains. At that time there also will be a transitional reduction of the ad valorem duty applying to all countries (from 10.5 percent to 9.1 percent), but an increase in the preferential ad valorem duty (from 2 percent to 3 percent), resulting in a net reduction of only 0.1 cent per pound.

The Commission recommended a reduction in the feed-conversion factor used in establishing the gate price and supplemental levy. At the same time, it also recommended, in computing the feed grain levy element, reducing the feed-conversion ratio from 2.8 to 2.6. The Council has not yet acted on this latter recommendation.

U. S. Poultry Exports Reduced

U. S. poultry exports in April and May were down substantially from the high levels of the same months last year because of sharply reduced shipments to the Common Market. This reflects the impact of the substantially higher EEC levies in effect against U. S. poultry since last July and the absence this year of the speculative storage demand that existed in West Germany in the second quarter of 1962. West German importers increased their purchases in the second quarter last year in anticipation of the more restrictive trade barriers. U. S. broiler exports during April-May totaled 19 million pounds, compared with 43 million pounds a year earlier. Sales to the Common Market, mostly because of smaller purchases by West Germany, were off 30 million pounds. Turkey exports were similarly affected.

Broiler exports in the first 5 months of 1963 totaled 40 million pounds, compared with 74 million pounds in the same months last year. Smaller sales to EEC countries were offset to a small degree by larger exports to other countries. Turkey exports in January-May totaled 6.9 million pounds, down 4.2 million pounds from the comparable period of 1962.

Broiler and turkey exports reached record-high levels in 1962 when they totaled 173 million pounds and 37 million respectively. In that year, 4 percent of U. S. broiler production (worth $46 million) and 3 percent of turkey production ($13 million) moved into foreign markets.

Farmers to Raise Fewer Replacement Chickens in 1963

Farmers are expected to raise only 314 million farm chickens for laying-flock replacements this year, 1 percent fewer than in 1962 and the smallest number since records were begun in 1909. The number of replacement chickens alone would not be expected to maintain the number of laying chickens on farms at the 1962 level throughout the remainder of this year. However, replacements from the expected large increases in the out-of-season hatch of egg-type chicks probably will rebuild the number of potential layers (hens and pullets laying and not yet laying) to about the year-earlier level by the end of the year.

Over the years, the number of farm chickens has declined rapidly, particularly since the late 1940's because egg producers have shifted from the use of straight-run chicks to sexed pullets for replacement purposes and because of the uptrend in the rate of lay. The rapid growth in broiler production, which replaced the raising of young farm chickens, gave added impetus to the decline in the number of farm chickens.

Supply-Price Relationship Encouraging for Eggs

The strength in egg prices in the first half of the year has caused many industry observers to question whether the downtrend in egg demand, which got underway in 1952, is beginning to level out. Egg prices received by U. S. farmers in January-June averaged 33.6 cents per dozen, compared with 32.5 cents in the same months last year. In January-May, supplies of eggs for consumption, export in the shell, and Government purchases were 1 percent greater than a year earlier. See table 18 . While this development is definitely encouraging, the time period is too short to support a final judgment concerning a reversal of the downtrend.

Part of the recent strength in egg prices to producers may reflect changes in the structure and organization of the egg industry. Egg assembling and grading costs are being substantially reduced by quality marketing programs which have greatly accelerated the shift toward larger and fewer egg producers. Relatively small farm flocks operated as a sideline enterprise are disappearing rapidly, particularly in the Midwest. In Iowa, for instance,many eggs are now priced under buyer-quality and volume-incentive programs; only a few years ago less than half the eggs were priced this way. Because of the speed with which these changes are occurring, some of the savings in marketing costs probably are being passed on to producers in the form of higher prices. Part of the charges normally comprising the marketing margin, and formerly borne by assemblers and other marketing agencies, have in many instances now been transferred to producers. Producers either directly perform functions formerly done by other agents, or follow practices which reduce costs for succeeding operations in the marketing process.

Egg prices received by U. S. producers in mid-June averaged 29.5 cents a dozen, the same as in May but 1.1 cents per dozen higher than in June 1962. Egg prices now have passed their low point for the year and are rising in response to seasonally declining production. Quotations at the farm on July 19 were up from mid-June by mostly 2 to 4 cents per dozen for large eggs, and up 1 to 3 cents for medium size eggs.

Because of the strong price rise--which was expected to continue--for high quality eggs, USDA terminated its dried-egg purchase program July 3. The purchases began April 26. Between these dates, 8.4 million pounds of dried egg solids were contracted for, an amount equivalent to approximately 2.2 percent of the total shell eggs produced during the time that purchases were made. The cost of this year's purchases totaled nearly $8.8 million, an average of $1.05 per pound. Paying prices ranged from $1.00 to $1.06 per pound. Last year's program ran from March 22 through July 13, with purchases totaling 13.0 million pounds. The total amount purchased in 1962 accounted for almost 2.1 percent of the shell eggs produced during the purchasing period. Prices last year averaged about $1.02 per pound.

The purpose of the program is to help remove excess supplies of eggs from the market during months of seasonally heavy production. Procurement of the dried egg solids was financed with funds provided under Section 32, Public Law 320. This year's purchases were for distribution to nonprofit school-lunch programs, charitable institutions, and nonprofit summer camps for children.

Fourth-Quarter Egg Price Prospects Brighten

At the beginning of the year the Nation's laying flock was 2 percent smaller than a year earlier, but by July 1 it was 1 percent larger. This increasing trend appears to reflect mainly the slower disposition of laying flocks, since the out-of-season hatch in late 1962 and early 1963 was not appreciably larger than a year earlier. Cooler weather than last year so far this summer may partially account for this, along with the somewhat higher egg prices.

During the next 3 or 4 months, however, the number of layers could drop a little below last year's level. This is because of reductions from last year in the hatch of egg-type chicks in March-May and because the arrival of hot weather will encourage a more rapid disposition of hens. Hens made up a larger proportion of the total number of layers at the beginning of 1963 than a year earlier, and the proportion appears to have become larger since January.

Egg production in the first half of 1963 was down 1 percent from a year earlier. All of the decline was concentrated in the first quarter, when the number of layers and the rate of lay averaged lower than in 1962. Egg output in the second quarter was about the same as in April-June last year, and July 1 egg output was up 1 percent from the 1962 level because of a greater number of layers.

Egg output in the second half is expected to be close to the year-earlier level because: (1) expansion in the laying flock above the 1962 level is expected to be reversed in the third quarter, (2) warmer weather could adversely affect the rate of lay, and (3) there is a larger proportion of hens in the laying flock. Smaller egg production in the third quarter may be about offset by larger output in the fourth quarter, resulting in no change for the second half. In the fourth quarter, more replacements will probably be added to the Nation's laying flock because 2.9 million more egg-type chicks were hatched this June than last, and eggs in incubators on July 1 were 15 percent higher than a year earlier.

If the expected production pattern materializes, egg prices may continue to approximate the 1962 level the remainder of the year. Earlier, it seemed that fourth quarter egg prices would be down significantly from the 1962 level, because a little larger production was expected.

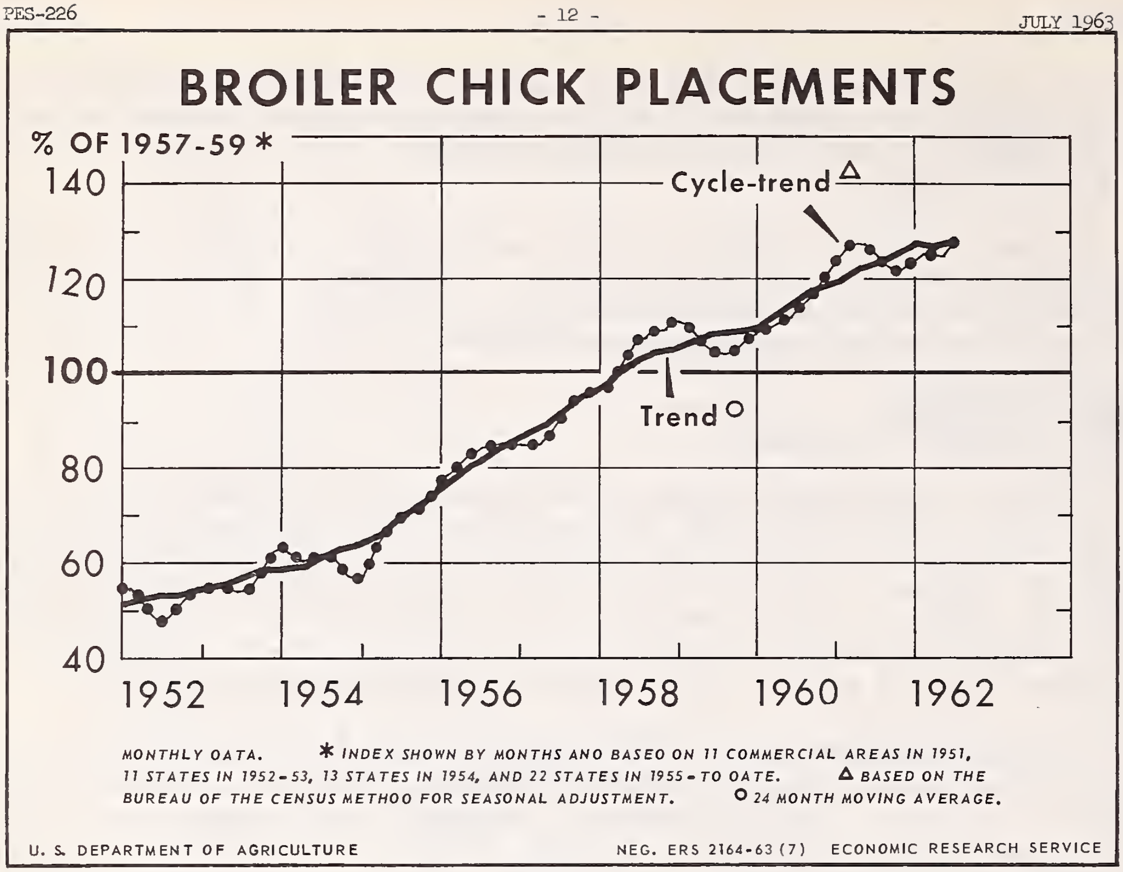
Outlook for Turkeys Little Different From 1962

From 93 to 94 million birds are expected in the 1963 turkey crop, compared with 92.3 million in 1962. Because turkey is still largely a holiday bird, most of the crop (86 percent by weight in 1962) is marketed in the last 6 months of the year. This year a somewhat larger percentage will be slaughtered after midyear. The liveweight of turkeys slaughtered in Federally-inspected plants from the beginning of the year through June 26 totaled 187 million pounds, down 12 million pounds from the comparable period of 1962.

Since turkey marketings are seasonally low in January-June, much of the turkey consumed comes from cold storage holdings. This year, frozen turkey stocks were reduced 113 million pounds in the first half, compared with 142 million pounds in the same months of 1962. Turkeys have moved out of storage more slowly in 1963 than 1962. This decline in the use of storage turkeys is about proportionate with the reduction in stocks January 1, 1963, compared with January 1, 1962. Turkey prices have been slightly higher than in 1962 and competition from more plentiful supplies of red meat and broilers has been greater. Turkey consumption in the first part of the year is much more responsive to its own prices and to prices of competing products than in the main holiday season.

Cold storage holdings of turkey probably were at the seasonal low on July 1 when they totaled 90 million pounds, or 31 million pounds less than on the same date in 1962. Stocks likely will build up more quickly in July and August this year than a year earlier because of the pattern of the poult hatch. Heavier hatchings than a year earlier in February and March indicate that most of the year's increase in turkey slaughter will be concentrated in the third quarter. In addition, red meat and broilers also will continue plentiful during this period. Consequently, frozen turkey stocks by September 1, the beginning of the main marketing season, will probably be rebuilt close to the year-earlier level of 160 million pounds. Turkey supplies in September-December are likely to be almost as large as in the same months last year. However, per capita consumption of turkey for all of 1963 will probably be 6.8 pounds (ready-to-cook weight) compared with 7.1 pounds in 1962.

Prices received by producers for turkeys in the first 6 months of 1963 averaged 22.0 cents per pound, up from 20.1 cents a year earlier. The mid-June price was 21.8 cents per pound, compared with 21.6 cents in May and 20.0 cents in June last year. U. S. turkey prices in the remainder of 1963 are likely to average about the same as a year earlier or 22 cents per pound.



MONTHLY DATA. * INDEX SHOWN BY MONTHS AND BASED ON 11 COMMERCIAL AREAS IN 1951, 11 STATES IN 1952-53, 13 STATES IN 1954, AND 22 STATES IN 1955-TO DATE. △ BASED ON THE BUREAU OF THE CENSUS METHOD FOR SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT. ○ 24 MONTH MOVING AVERAGE.

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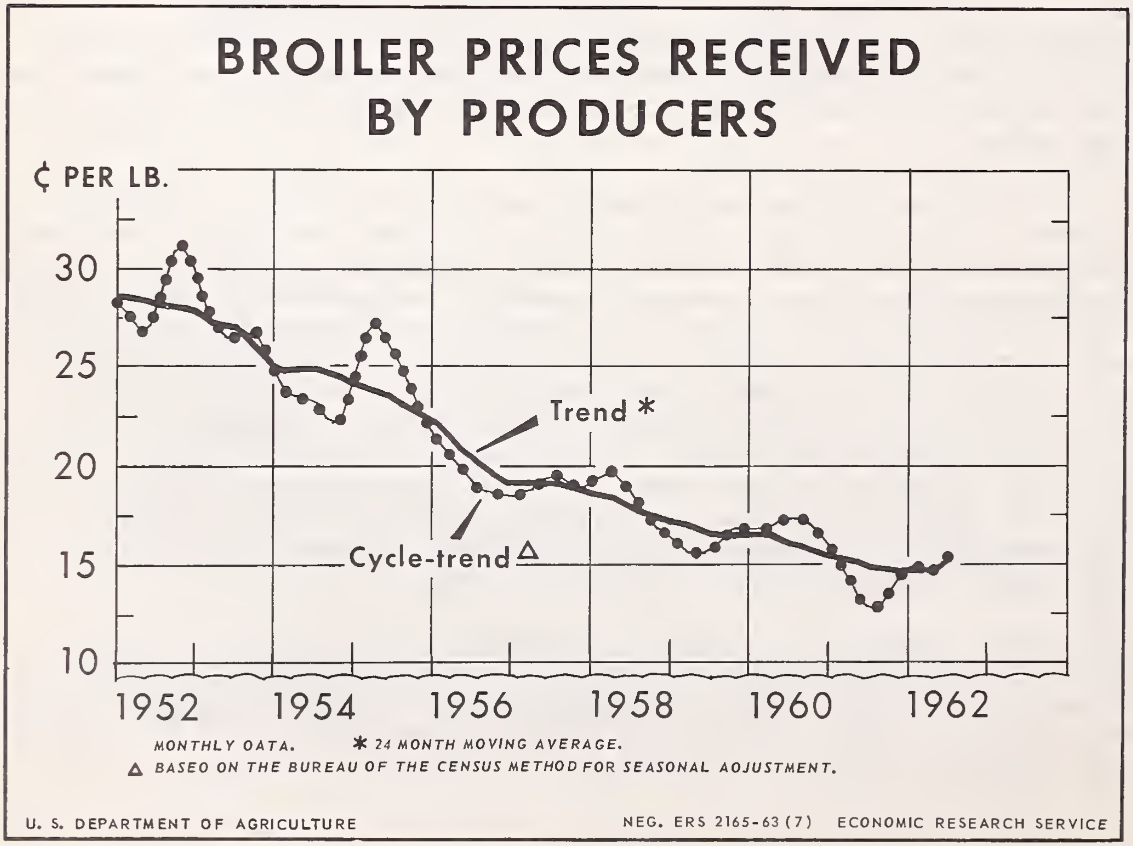
Figure 1



MONTHLY DATA. * 24 MONTH MOVING AVERAGE.
△ BASED ON THE BUREAU OF THE CENSUS METHOD FOR SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT.

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Figure 2

THE CYCLES IN BROILERS

by

Herman Bluestone [1]

Introduction

The dramatic growth in broiler production has not been without growing pains. Recurring periods of overproduction and depressed prices have plagued the broiler industry throughout the last decade. Work has been done recently to contribute to a better understanding of these developments [2]. This report builds on that work.

The Cycles in Broiler Production and Prices

When the seasonal influence is removed from an index of monthly broiler chick placements and from monthly prices received by producers for broilers (as in figures 1 and 2) 4 well-defined cycles emerge in the 1952-62 period. The Census Bureau's method for seasonal adjustment was used to get the cycle-trend lines for these charts. In figure 3 the same data for 1956-62 appears in a different form, which makes the cycles easier to see.

The latest 2 cycles were 27 months long for broiler chick placements and 32 and 28 months for broiler prices. Upswings have lasted longer than downswings, particularly in broiler production (broiler chick placements). It has taken 19 months for broiler chick placements to climb from the trough to the peak, while movement from peak to trough has taken a much shorter period--only 8 months in each of the last 2 cycles. The upward phases in price continued 20 and 17 months and the downward phases for 12 and 11 months.

Cyclical troughs in broiler prices in April 1959 and August 1961 came 4 and 5 months after the peaks in broiler chick placements had been reached. Since it requires 2 to 3 months to raise a broiler to marketable weight, the troughs in price occurred about 2 months after the peak in production. This means prices continued declining for 2 months after broiler production turned down. However, this fairly close alignment that existed between the peaks in production and the troughs in prices was conspicuously absent between troughs in production and the peaks in prices. Rather than coinciding with the troughs in broiler production, the price peaks came about a year later; broiler prices were rising for an extended period while production was also increasing.

However, when prices began moving cyclically lower, the decline got underway several months before broiler chick placements reached their peak.

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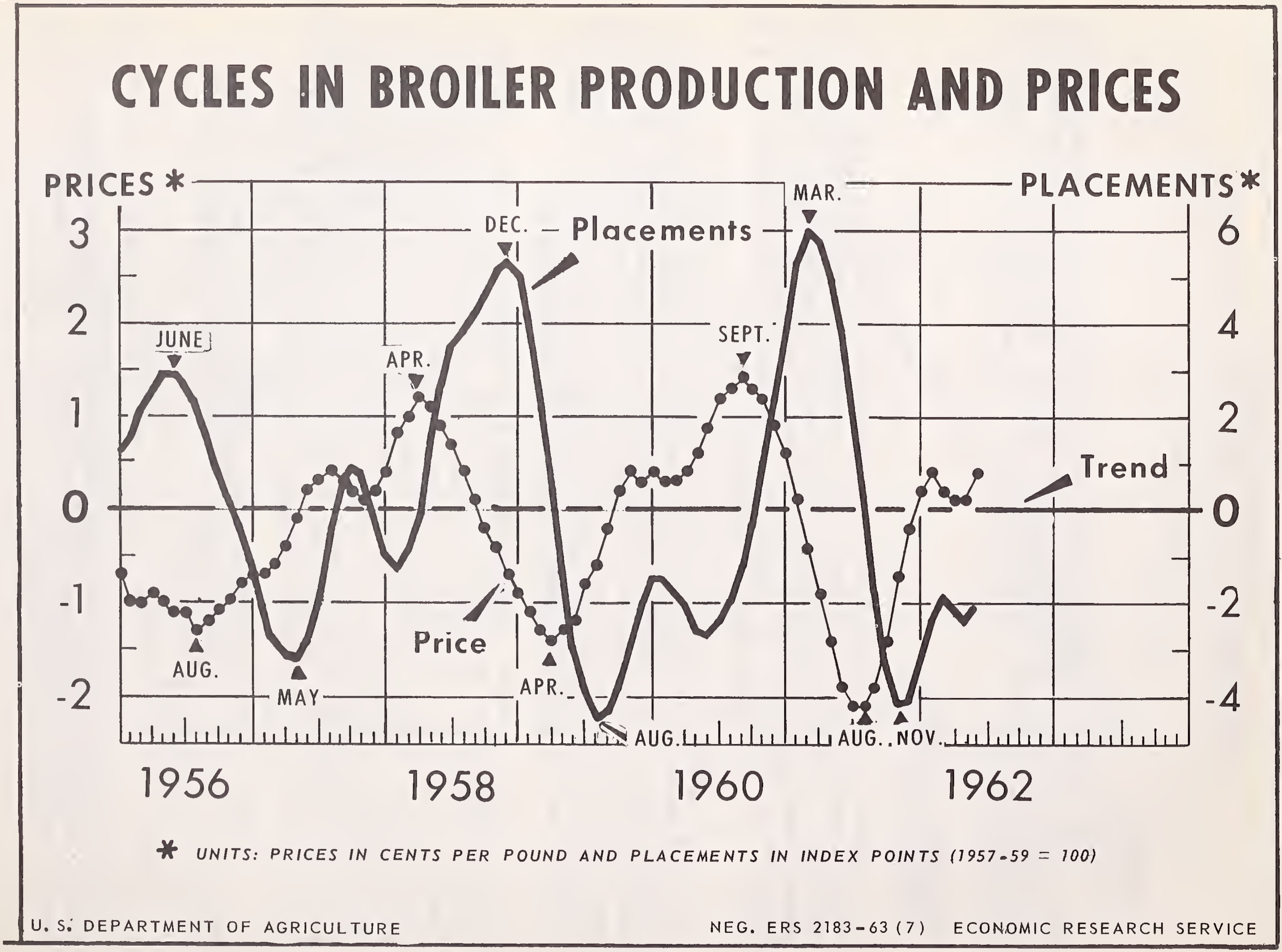
[1] Agricultural Statistician, Economic and Statistical Analysis Division, ERS.

[2] Particularly significant is an article by John W. Goodwin of Armour and Company entitled: "Coming This Fall--Another Bust!" which appeared in the June issue of Broiler Industry Magazine.



CYCLES IN BROILER PRODUCTION AND PRICES

* UNITS: PRICES IN CENTS PER POUND AND PLACEMENTS IN INDEX POINTS (1957-59 = 100)

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Figure 3

Prices in the last 2 cycles turned down 8 and 6 months before broiler chick placements, or about 10 and 8 months before broiler production decreased.

Downward Adjustments in Broiler Production Made Via Hatchery Supply Flocks

Why does the industry continue increasing chick placements for 8 to 6 months after prices begin to turn down? First, prices remain relatively favorable for about 5 months after the price decline begins. Second, while production is expanding in response to cyclically rising prices, a concurrent cyclical expansion also is underway in the number of pullet chicks placed in hatchery supply flocks. This latter expansion gets started about 6 to 10 months after the expansion in broiler chick placements, because these are first increased by setting lighter-weight eggs and holding pullets in production for a somewhat longer period. (See figure 4) It is important to note here that there is no estimate of the number of layers producing broiler hatching eggs. Data are available only on the indicated number of layers added to hatchery supply flocks. Such data, on pullorum testings and pullet chick placements, can be appropriately cumulated and compared to give an indication of the size of the hatching-egg supply flock, as has been done in tables 1 and 2.

When broiler prices become definitely unfavorable, a cutback occurs in pullet chick additions to hatchery supply flocks. But the number of layers producing hatching eggs continues to expand a few months more, because of the pullet chicks already placed. The additional expansion probably lasts a shorter period than the 5 to 6 months needed to raise the pullet, because by this time there has been a drastic decline in the prices of hatching eggs and broiler chicks. This leads to the more rapid disposition of layers in hatchery supply flocks and to the institution of more exacting specifications for hatching eggs.

There is, however, no wholesale liquidation of supply flocks. When the industry has invested in laying flocks and related facilities, practically the only relevant short-run cost to the integrator is feed--the return that goes to the egg producer is treated mainly as a semi-fixed cost under the typical contractual arrangements between hatcheries and egg producers. Feed costs for laying pullets should not exceed 25 cents per dozen eggs in most of the Southeast, compared with the 1961-62 average price of 59 cents per dozen reported paid to Georgia producers for hatching eggs.

This reported hatching-egg price overstates the average price for all eggs produced by breeder flocks because a certain proportion of such eggs are disposed of in table-egg channels, and this proportion increases as hatching egg prices decline. The table-egg market provides a floor below the price of hatching eggs and, therefore, limits the total loss involved in the production of hatching eggs. For this reason it tends to encourage a greater production of hatching eggs than otherwise would occur.

The difference between the feed cost of producing hatching eggs and the price received by Georgia hatching-egg producers for all eggs in 1961-62 should not have been lower than 30 cents per dozen. This translates to a minimum of 3.3 cents per broiler chick (assuming 75 percent hatchability) or 1.0 cent per pound of liveweight broiler.

When the reported broiler chick prices in Georgia were extremely depressed from May-November 1961, they averaged 7.9 cents each, compared with the 1961-62 average of 9.3 cents--a difference of 0.4 cent per pound of live broiler. Since it is unlikely that hatching-egg producers in the second half of 1961 were more than covering their variable costs, the fixed costs per dozen hatching eggs, by this method of reasoning, is indicated to be roughly 0.4 to 1.0 cent per pound of live broiler.

Because there are other fixed costs involved in broiler production and marketing, firms in the short run tend to continue producing broilers, even when prices fall below the total cost of production by more than 0.4 to 1.0 cent per pound. Seasonally adjusted U. S. average broiler prices to producers between March and December 1961 averaged 13.6 cents per pound, 1.3 cents below trend, which provides a rough measure of the full cost of production.

As long as prices received for broilers cover variable costs, that is, costs directly related to the volume of output, broiler firms intending to remain in business will continue to produce as long as they can obtain credit.

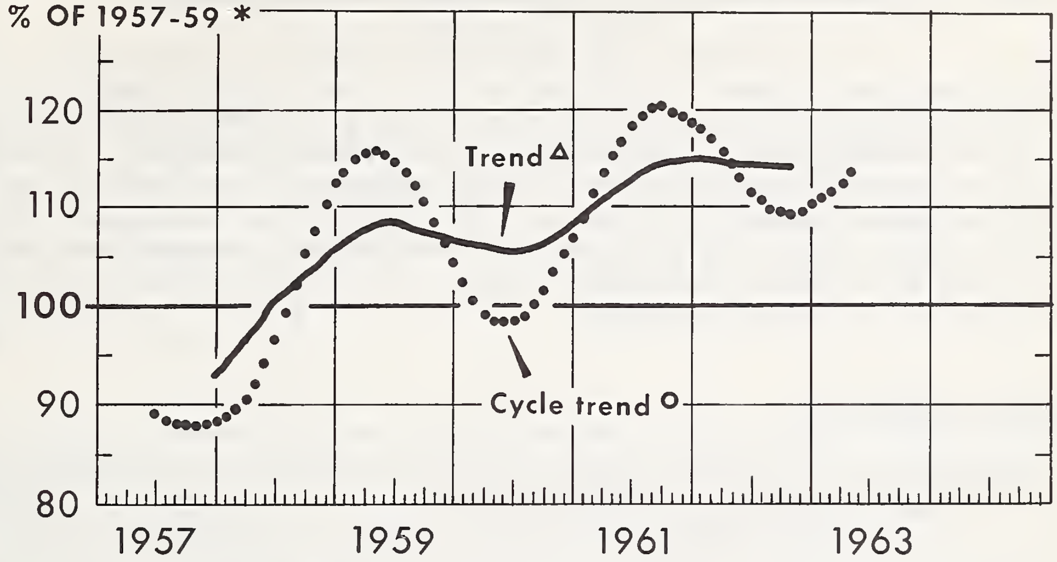
In fact, broiler firms will continue operating at prices below variable costs for short periods to maintain or improve their position in the industry. In addition, there are expenses involved in withdrawing from and reentering the market. These include the expense of laying off and rehiring employees and reestablishing production and outlets for ready-to-cook broilers.

Because profit margins are extremely narrow in the broiler industry, a fraction of a cent change in broiler price may spell the difference between success and failure. Consequently, the prolonged periods of extremely depressed prices (like in 1958-59 and 1961) eventually lead to a short-run downward adjustment in production, but only after widespread losses which leave in their wake bankruptcies and reorganizations of broiler firms.

Demand for Broilers Appears to Increase in Spurts

As mentioned earlier, broiler prices in the last 2 cycles continued rising for a year following the troughs in broiler chick placements. That is, broiler prices were increasing during these periods while production was increasing, indicating an expanding demand for broilers. However, as broiler production continued to expand cyclically, prices eventually slid into a sharp decline. It was during these periods, at the end of the expansionary phases in production, that consumer demand for broilers apparently began to weaken temporarily. Consumers were then induced to further increase their use of broilers by additional price declines and intensified featuring by chain stores. Shortly after broiler production had been reduced to cyclical lows, the demand began expanding again.

PULLET CHICKS PLACED FOR BROILER HATCHERY SUPPLY FLOCKS



* SUM OF PULLET CHICK PLACEMENTS FOR BROILER HATCHERY SUPPLY FLOCKS IN PREVIOUS 5 TO 12 MONTHS.
△ 24-MONTH MOVING AVERAGE. ○ 12-MONTH MOVING AVERAGE.

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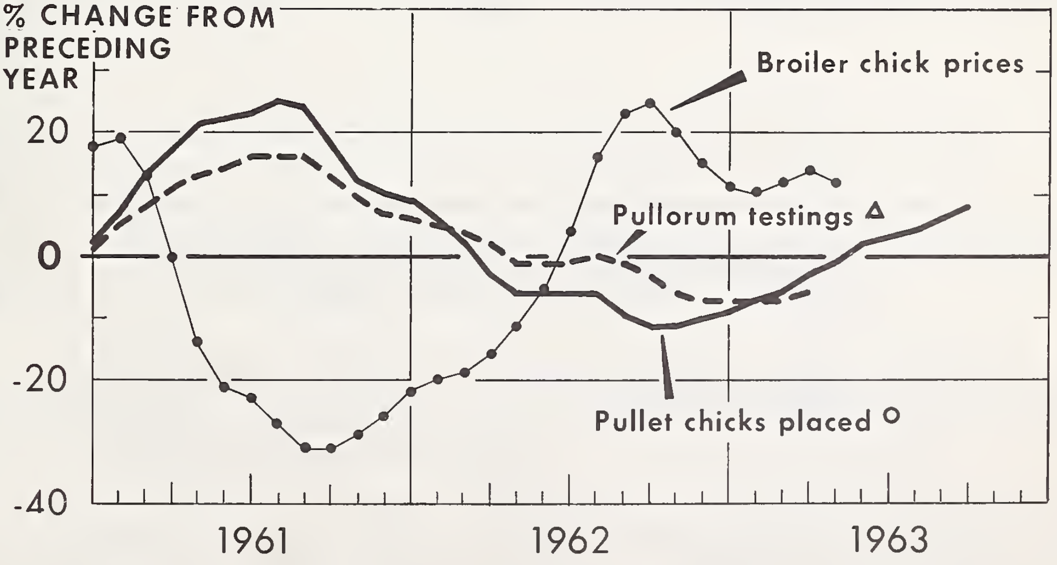
Figure 4

CHICK PRICES AND INDICATED SIZE OF BROILER HATCHERY SUPPLY FLOCK



* 3-MONTH MOVING AVERAGES.
△ CHICKENS TESTED FOR HATCHERY SUPPLY FLOCKS IN CURRENT AND PRECEDING 7 MONTHS.
○ SUM OF CHICKS PLACED FOR HATCHERY SUPPLY FLOCKS IN PREVIOUS 5 TO 12 MONTHS.

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Figure 5

This suggests that demand in recent years has tended to increase in spurts. Growth in demand is arrested at the end of the overproduction period as consumers temporarily get their fill of broilers, but this lasts only a short time, and soon the uptrend in demand gets underway again.

It is the upward spurt in demand and the resultant rising prices that start the expansionary phase in production. At first, rising demand is satisfied by stretching the hatching-egg supply--using smaller eggs and keeping layers in production longer. But soon, the profitable situation leads to a buildup in hatchery supply flocks--a buildup which continues several months after broiler prices become unfavorable. The expansion in the number of layers in hatchery supply flocks cannot immediately be arrested because for several months the number of flock replacements keeps increasing from the larger number of pullet chicks placed earlier.

Intermediate Cutbacks in Broiler Production

Another significant development that occurred during the expansionary phases of the last 2 production cycles, which has thus far been ignored for the sake of simplicity, is the intermediate cutback in production. After broiler chick placements and broiler prices have been rising a few months in the early stage of the cyclical production upswing, prices turn down for a few months. This decline is accompanied by a similar and corresponding decline in chick placements. However, this intermediate decline is soon reversed, and placements and prices again resume the cyclical movement.

Such an intermediate adjustment appears to have just taken place in the current cycle, which began in late 1961. See section entitled: "Broiler Production Responds to Price Changes" on page 5. These intermediate adjustments are possible only before the cyclical upswing in the Nation's broiler hatchery-supply flock is well underway.

The Poultry and Egg Situation is published in January, March, May, July, September, and November.

The next issue is scheduled for release on September 25, 1963.

RECENT CHANGES IN THE FEDERAL-STATE EGG GRADING PROGRAM

by
Lester Kilpatrick, Chief
Standardization and Marketing Practices Branch
Poultry Division
Agricultural Marketing Service

To keep pace with the fast-moving changes in egg production and marketing, USDA has in the last 4 years amended the regulations governing the grading of shell eggs. The latest changes appeared in the Federal Register on June 20, 1963, and will become effective August 1, 1963. The ones of major interest are: (1) Increased minimum requirements for eggs packed under both the Fresh Fancy Quality (U. S. Grade AA) and U. S. Grade A quality control programs, (2) elimination of yolk centering as a factor of interior quality, and (3) a higher standard for A quality eggs

When the Poultry Division of USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service deems it advisable to reevaluate and revise standards and grades in the regulations, proposed changes are published in the Federal Register and comments are invited from interested persons. After evaluation of all comments, the regulations may be amended and published in final form in the Federal Register.

Quality Control Program Established

A quality control certification program, using the Haugh unit measurement, was introduced into the regulations for shell egg grading in 1959. Under this program, a new objective method was used--instead of the traditional hand-candling method--to determine the interior quality of the egg. The quality control program under which the Fresh Fancy Quality (U. S. Grade AA) and U. S. Grade A may be packed has proved sound and realistic in supplying a high-quality egg to the consumer. Its use has increased during the past 4 years, and its acceptance by consumers has been very favorable. The program also has proven advantageous to processors and packers of shell eggs, since it can be geared to large modern operations.

The system of using results of a weekly breakout of a sample of eggs from each flock has been highly accurate in determing the relative quality of albumen, which is an important factor in consumer acceptance. Albumen quality is determined by measuring the height of the thick albumen of the broken-out egg with a micrometer. This measure, adjusted for weight of the egg, is converted to a measurement called a "Haugh unit." The Haugh unit, named for its originator, is measured on a scale ranging from zero to 100.

Yolk condition is observed while measuring the albumen quality. The eggs from qualified flocks are candled or flash candled to remove those containing meat and blood spots or which have stained, dirty, cracked, or other shell defects not permitted in the top qualities.

These programs encourage the production and marketing of highest quality eggs to consumers. Various safeguards and restrictions are incorporated into the programs to assure the very best product. Qualifying restrictions begin with the farm flocks from which the eggs are gathered, and continued through the handling of eggs until they are purchased by the consumer.

Temperature requirements, very important to "keeping quality" of eggs, are incorporated into the program. Eggs must be kept at 60° F. or below from time of gathering from the nest until purchased by the consumer. A time limitation or a "pull date" of 10 days, with the carton of eggs so marked, is used as a further control to assure the maintenance of the original high quality of the eggs.

The primary purpose of the quality control program is to provide benefits to producers and consumers. To be effective, such a program must be workable and realistic. Producers, packers, and distributors participating in the program have been well satisfied.

Haugh Units Lowered in 1959 for AA Quality Eggs

Until 1959, the minimum Haugh unit value of AA quality eggs was 79. This figure was used by breeders and research workers to represent top quality eggs. However, in developing the quality control programs, Poultry Division marketing specialists and graders studied candled and broken-out egg quality in various areas throughout the country and found the figure unrealistic and not representative of egg quality generally available.

Therefore, in June 1959, the Department proposed that the minimum for AA quality be changed from 79 to 72 Haugh units. The egg industry was generally in favor, and the change was made in September 1959. Evidence at that time indicated that 72 Haugh units was realistic for the minimum standard. Since then, experience has supported this action.

Higher Minimum Moving Averages Go Into Effect August 1

The Department's latest amendments increasing minimum requirements for eggs packed under both grade AA or Fresh Fancy Quality and U. S. Grade A quality control programs do not change the minimum standards, but only the minimum 4-week moving average Haugh unit ratings for flocks under the programs. The moving average was increased from 72 to 74 Haugh units for the Fresh Fanch Quality Control Program and from 60 to 62 for the U. S. Grade A Quality Control Program. This will mean that more individual eggs packed under these quality labels will exceed the minimum Haugh unit requirements, which are 72 and 60, respectively.

For instance, evidence indicates that a change in the minimum moving average from 72 to 74 Haugh units will assure that about 85 percent of the individual eggs packed will be above 72 Haugh units. When flocks are at a moving average of 72 Haugh units, we may expect that not more than half the eggs will exceed 72 Haugh units.

The same is true for eggs packed under the Grade A quality control program. The minimum moving average must be 62 Haugh units to assure that most individual eggs are above the minimum standard of 60 Haugh units for Grade A eggs. Because most flocks in these programs produce eggs with Haugh unit values well above the required average , consumers can expect more than 85 percent of the eggs they purchase to exceed this average.

Table 1.--Pullet chicks placed domestically for broiler hatchery supply flocks, by months, 1961 to date with comparisons 1/

Month	Total for the month					Cumulation relevant to breeder flock of given month 2/				
	Reported			Percentage of preceding year		Reported			Percentage of preceding year	
	1961	1962	1963	1962	1963	1961	1962	1963	1962	1963
	Million	Million	Million	Percent	Percent	Million	Million	Million	Percent	Percent
January	1.9	2.1	1.7	111	83	20.4	22.5	20.6	110	92
February	2.4	2.4	2.2	101	93	21.3	22.7	20.8	107	92
March	3.7	3.4	2.9	91	87	21.9	22.3	21.0	102	94
April	3.9	3.4	4.1	86	122	21.2	20.5	19.9	97	97
May	3.3	2.5	3.6	76	140	19.6	18.0	17.8	92	99
June	2.8	2.0	2.7	71	137	18.0	16.7	17.0	93	102
July	2.4	2.3		97		17.0	16.4	17.3	96	105
August	2.3	2.6		116		18.6	17.4	17.9	94	103
September	2.0	2.3		114		20.4	18.5	19.4	91	105
October	2.0	2.6		134		21.3	18.9	20.6	89	109
November	1.9	2.3		122		21.5	18.9	20.7	88	
December	1.4	1.2		87		21.9	19.4		89	

1/ Includes expected pullet replacements from eggs sold during the preceding month at the rate of 125 pullet chicks per case of eggs. Data reported by the leading primary breeders of broiler replacement stocks.

2/ Totals obtained from unrounded data; sum of domestic placements 5-12 months previous.

Table 2.--Chickens tested for broiler hatching egg production, by months, 1961 to date with comparisons

Month	Total for the month					Cumulation relevant to breeder flock of given month 1/				
	Reported			Percentage of preceding year		Reported			Percentage of preceding year	
	1961	1962	1963	1962	1963	1961	1962	1963	1962	1963
	Million	Million	Million	Percent	Percent	Million	Million	Million	Percent	Percent
January	2.8	2.7	2.7	99	97	18.0	18.8	17.6	104	94
February	2.1	2.3	2.3	111	96	18.7	19.9	18.3	106	92
March	2.3	2.2	2.4	94	113	19.7	20.5	19.1	104	93
April	2.1	1.9	2.0	87	106	19.9	20.1	18.8	101	94
May	1.6	1.4	1.7	87	126	19.1	19.1	17.8	100	93
June	1.2	1.5	1.1	127	71	17.6	17.5	16.4	99	94
July	1.6	1.7		101		16.4	16.3		99	
August	2.2	2.3		103		16.0	16.0		100	
September	2.4	2.6		109		15.6	15.9		102	
October	3.1	2.5		80		16.6	16.0		96	
November	2.9	2.3		78		17.2	16.1		94	
December	2.6	2.0		80		17.7	16.3		92	

1/ Includes the sum of current and preceding seven months.

Table 3.--Broiler prices per pound, selected areas, January 1956 to date

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual weighted average
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
	(a) U. S. mid-month average price received by farmers, live												
1956	20.6	21.4	21.9	20.8	21.1	20.2	21.4	19.6	18.2	17.2	16.8	16.6	19.6
1957	18.0	19.5	19.5	18.8	19.3	20.7	21.4	20.7	18.1	17.0	16.9	16.4	18.9
1958	19.9	20.4	21.4	19.4	20.3	21.1	19.3	17.6	16.3	15.8	15.8	15.1	18.5
1959	17.0	16.8	16.9	16.3	15.8	15.8	16.1	15.6	15.4	14.9	14.8	17.4	16.1
1960	17.1	17.6	18.0	17.4	17.5	17.6	17.7	16.6	15.8	15.8	15.7	15.5	16.9
1961	16.4	17.6	16.6	14.9	14.0	12.8	12.4	12.7	11.8	11.8	12.4	15.2	13.9
1962	16.3	16.7	16.1	14.7	14.3	14.2	15.0	15.5	16.3	15.0	14.1	14.5	15.2
1963	14.6	15.8	15.6	15.5	14.8	14.4							
	(b) Del-Mar-Va, average price, live 1/												
1956	21.2	22.7	23.1	20.4	21.1	19.0	23.2	19.7	18.5	17.9	16.7	17.4	
1957	18.1	20.8	21.4	20.2	19.1	21.8	22.1	21.8	19.2	17.2	16.7	16.1	
1958	18.6	20.9	22.7	19.3	21.6	22.3	20.3	18.5	16.4	15.9	17.1	14.9	
1959	16.4	17.0	16.9	17.0	17.2	16.2	17.7	16.4	16.9	15.2	15.0	19.9	
1960	17.0	18.2	20.0	18.1	17.6	18.2	20.1	18.0	17.0	15.9	17.6	15.8	
1961	17.4	19.3	17.5	15.9	15.2	12.8	14.0	13.4	12.4	12.6	12.5	15.2	
1962	16.7	18.0	18.2	15.8	15.3	15.7	15.7	16.4	17.9	15.3	15.6	14.7	
1963	15.4	16.6	17.0	17.4	15.3	15.7	16.1						
	(c) North Georgia, price at farm, live 1/												
1956	21.3	21.1	21.0	19.6	20.0	18.2	21.5	18.7	16.5	16.0	16.3	15.1	
1957	17.0	19.7	19.7	19.0	17.5	20.0	20.0	20.0	17.5	15.7	15.4	15.8	
1958	17.5	19.0	21.0	18.2	20.0	20.0	19.8	17.0	15.6	15.2	16.1	14.2	
1959	14.6	15.1	15.5	15.8	14.9	14.5	15.5	14.6	14.4	13.8	14.0	16.2	
1960	15.6	17.3	18.3	17.5	17.3	16.8	17.2	16.7	15.4	14.7	14.9	14.6	
1961	15.4	16.7	16.0	15.0	13.3	11.1	12.2	11.9	10.6	10.4	10.9	13.8	
1962	15.0	16.6	15.9	14.2	13.0	13.6	13.5	14.5	15.2	14.1	14.6	13.1	
1963	14.0	15.0	15.0	14.7	13.2	14.2	13.6						
	(d) San Joaquin Valley of California, monthly average prices paid at ranch, live 2/												
1956	21.0	21.3	21.6	21.6	21.9	22.6	23.9	21.8	20.6	18.3	16.5	19.5	20.9
1957	21.0	20.3	22.2	20.3	20.6	22.0	22.8	22.4	19.9	16.5	17.1	17.0	20.2
1958	20.8	20.9	23.9	21.0	21.2	22.0	20.5	19.1	16.3	15.9	17.3	15.5	19.5
1959	18.6	18.5	18.8	16.9	18.0	18.6	18.8	18.8	16.7	15.0	16.0	17.4	17.7
1960	17.6	18.4	19.8	20.2	19.0	18.9	19.3	18.5	17.5	16.8	16.8	16.7	18.3
1961	17.5	18.8	17.5	16.0	14.9	13.8	13.6	14.0	12.9	13.1	13.4	16.2	15.1
1962	17.8	18.2	17.6	16.1	15.7	15.8	16.8	17.3	18.0	16.6	16.2	16.2	16.9
1963	16.5	17.4	17.0	16.8	16.6	16.4							
	(e) Chicago, ready-to-cook (ice-packed), monthly average price												
1956	34.0	34.8	35.3	33.6	34.1	32.3	34.5	32.2	30.3	28.7	28.3	26.8	32.1
1957	29.5	31.9	31.5	30.9	31.2	33.6	34.2	33.3	29.6	27.9	27.9	27.4	30.8
1958	32.8	32.7	34.5	31.8	32.7	33.8	31.7	29.3	27.4	26.4	26.6	25.3	30.4
1959	29.2	28.7	28.7	27.9	27.1	26.9	27.3	26.6	26.4	25.8	25.1	28.9	27.4
1960	28.8	29.8	30.5	29.3	29.2	29.2	29.6	28.2	27.0	26.8	26.5	26.1	28.4
1961	27.9	29.4	28.2	25.8	24.1	22.5	22.0	22.7	21.5	21.7	22.2	26.1	24.5
1962	28.0	28.8	27.8	25.8	24.8	24.8	25.9	26.6	27.9	25.8	24.9	25.0	26.4
1963	25.5	27.0	26.5	26.2	25.6	27.0							
	(f) New York, ready-to-cook (ice-packed), wholesale lots, monthly average price												
1956	35.8	37.4	37.6	35.4	36.1	35.2	38.4	34.5	33.2	31.6	30.8	30.3	34.7
1957	32.7	33.9	33.9	32.8	33.7	35.7	37.4	32.8	32.5	30.5	30.0	29.5	33.0
1958	34.8	35.2	36.2	33.4	34.4	35.5	33.0	30.9	28.8	28.0	27.8	26.9	32.1
1959	30.9	30.3	29.5	29.0	28.2	28.6	29.3	28.1	28.5	27.4	27.2	30.8	29.0
1960	30.8	30.8	31.8	29.9	30.8	30.7	31.7	29.9	28.6	27.9	28.0	28.2	29.9
1961	29.2	31.0	29.3	27.1	25.8	24.0	23.7	24.7	23.4	23.8	23.4	27.7	26.1
1962	29.7	30.4	29.4	26.6	26.5	27.4	28.3	28.4	29.8	27.5	25.7	26.1	28.0
1963	27.0	29.5	28.3	27.9	27.4	27.1							

1/ First full week of month. 2/ Simple average of daily "mostly price."

Table 4.--Average price received by farmers for broilers and indicators of supplies of broilers and red meat, by months, 1954 to date

Year	Unit	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Weighted average or total
		(a) U. S. average price received by farmers for broilers, per lb.												
1954	Ct.	24.2	22.6	23.5	24.3	23.7	24.4	25.4	24.9	23.0	21.0	20.1	19.2	23.1
1955	do.	24.4	25.4	29.7	28.4	27.0	27.2	26.5	26.9	25.2	22.0	21.2	19.4	25.2
1956	do.	20.6	21.4	21.9	20.8	21.1	20.2	21.4	19.6	18.2	17.2	16.8	16.6	19.6
1957	do.	18.0	19.5	19.5	18.8	19.3	20.7	21.4	20.7	18.1	17.0	16.9	16.4	18.9
1958	do.	19.9	20.4	21.4	19.4	20.3	21.1	19.3	17.6	16.3	15.8	15.8	15.1	18.5
1959	do.	17.0	16.8	16.9	16.3	15.8	15.8	16.1	15.6	15.4	14.9	14.8	17.4	16.1
1960	do.	17.1	17.6	18.0	17.4	17.5	17.6	17.7	16.6	15.8	15.8	15.7	15.5	16.9
1961	do.	16.4	17.6	16.6	14.9	14.0	12.8	12.4	12.7	11.8	11.8	12.4	15.2	13.9
1962	do.	16.3	16.7	16.1	14.7	14.3	14.2	15.0	15.5	16.3	15.0	14.1	14.6	15.2
1963	**do.**	**14.6**	**15.8**	15.6	15.5	14.8	14.4							
		(b) Hatch of broiler chicks related to production in the given month 1/												
1955					81.2	92.1	105.5	109.7	115.9	111.8	111.0	98.7	86.9	1,091.7
1956	do.	93.4	95.8	102.7	111.0	115.0	132.5	135.0	142.7	138.0	128.5	123.3	107.0	1,343.7
1957	do.	107.4	108.0	109.0	128.7	122.5	139.4	141.4	147.8	142.0	143.7	132.4	119.5	1,447.5
1958	do.	116.5	126.7	140.1	137.3	151.4	163.2	180.9	177.8	172.2	153.2	130.5	133.7	1,659.5
1959	do.	133.8	148.2	154.0	150.2	183.5	180.6	175.1	169.4	166.4	149.9	122.1	121.7	1,736.9
1960	do.	129.7	141.5	159.1	159.5	176.8	172.9	195.1	185.3	175.7	155.5	140.0	143.4	1,795.0
1961	do.	144.2	157.9	169.8	175.2	210.3	216.0	212.0	197.1	187.4	170.2	143.7	137.8	1,992.2
1962	do.	142.6	156.5	177.3	168.9	209.1	208.2	209.9	192.4	185.6	173.3	160.7	168.8	2,122.4
1963	**do.**	170.6	171.3	174.9	168.3	199.7	214.8	224.1	205.6					
		(c) Commercial production of red meats												
1954	Mil. lb.	2,062	1,735	2,020	1,818	1,792	1,912	1,876	1,930	2,071	2,120	2,199	2,270	23,805
1955	do.	2,192	1,854	2,176	1,929	1,964	2,001	1,815	2,158	2,227	2,324	2,398	2,433	25,471
1956	do.	2,474	2,182	2,264	2,107	2,147	2,059	2,078	2,136	2,070	2,511	2,411	2,204	26,643
1957	do.	2,439	2,027	2,098	2,041	2,166	1,917	2,099	2,084	2,098	2,405	2,097	2,096	25,567
1958	do.	2,268	1,807	1,907	1,984	1,948	1,934	2,011	1,939	2,119	2,314	1,965	2,182	24,378
1959	do.	2,241	1,980	2,084	2,153	2,018	2,064	2,145	2,003	2,253	2,402	2,245	2,429	26,017
1960	do.	2,401	2,162	2,326	2,110	2,245	2,244	2,032	2,321	2,312	2,315	2,301	2,247	27,016
1961	do.	2,336	2,045	2,379	2,103	2,398	2,332	2,080	2,343	2,257	2,493	2,420	2,252	27,438
1962	do.	2,502	2,110	2,388	2,210	2,421	2,257	2,220	2,361	2,129	2,619	2,405	2,268	27,891
1963	**do.**	**2,560**	2,218	2,463	2,468	2,515								

[1] Through 1957 the figure shown is the hatch 3 months earlier; thereafter, it is the hatch 2 months earlier. Total for the year is actual broiler production rather than the sum of months hatchings.

Table 5.--United States broiler and turkey exports, total and to the Common Market, by months, 1962 to date

Month	Broilers							
	1962				1963			
	Common Market				Common Market			
	West Germany	Total	Other countries	Total	West Germany	Total	Other countries	Total
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
January	5,394	6,829	3,005	9,835	300	345	1,036	1,381
February	5,110	6,130	3,200	9,330	3,881	4,700	5,061	9,761
March	6,739	7,686	3,658	11,344	1,615	2,345	8,053	10,398
April	11,888	12,997	3,731	16,728	1,580	2,128	7,321	9,449
May	18,336	21,812	4,626	26,437	2,352	2,973	6,733	9,706
June	20,835	25,120	8,151	33,271				
July	6,604	8,849	5,825	14,674				
August	3,578	5,142	5,929	11,071				
September	4,027	5,672	6,497	12,169				
October	3,973	5,018	3,939	8,957				
November	4,498	5,131	5,933	11,064				
December	2,307	2,511	5,185	7,696				
Total	93,290	112,897	59,679	172,576				
	Turkeys							
January	1,766	1,852	257	2,108	787	850	231	1,081
February	1,621	1,927	310	2,237	1,908	2,415	413	2,828
March	1,541	1,712	384	2,096	757	956	556	1,512
April	840	937	298	1,234	277	612	260	872
May	2,839	2,905	501	3,406	162	314	266	580
June	1,954	2,114	960	3,074				
July	1,085	1,232	740	1,972				
August	330	894	1,000	1,894				
September	3,606	4,279	1,226	5,505				
October	5,009	5,676	707	6,383				
November	3,392	3,904	903	4,807				
December	1,134	1,471	664	2,135				
Total	25,117	28,903	7,950	36,853				

Table 6.--Consumption of broilers and turkey, by months, 1961 to date

Month	Broilers						Turkeys					
	Per capita			Total			Per capita			Total		
	1961	1962	1963	1961	1962	1963	1961	1962	1963	1961	1962	1963
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
January	1.8	1.8	2.2	332	331	416	0.2	0.3	0.2	28	49	40
February	1.6	1.7	1.8	284	303	328	.2	.2	.2	37	44	34
March	2.0	2.0	2.0	366	364	374	.3	.2	.2	53	41	36
April	2.2	2.1	2.2	397	377	408	.2	.3	.3	43	55	54
May	2.6	2.4	2.4	463	446	450	.4	.3	.3	65	57	57
June	2.7	2.4		478	431		.4	.3		72	58	
July	2.5	2.3		445	419		.4	.3		73	62	
August	2.6	2.4		464	442		.6	.6		103	103	
September	2.2	2.0		408	364		.7	.6		128	115	
October	2.3	2.4		411	436		1.0	.9		177	165	
November	1.8	2.0		326	358		2.0	1.9		357	344	
December	1.6	1.9		294	343		1.2	1.2		217	215	
Year 1/	25.9	25.2		4,667	4,615		7.5	7.1		1,351	1,308	

1/ Sum of months may not add to total for the year due to rounding.

Table 7.--Poultry slaughtered under Federal inspection, live weight, by months January 1959 to date

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total 1/
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
(a) Young chickens													
1959	331	313	364	403	420	457	443	431	434	424	339	318	4,679
1960	354	349	397	420	461	471	447	525	474	450	400	390	5,137
1961	412	355	463	498	581	611	568	586	513	532	423	383	5,924
1962	424	383	471	501	592	581	548	573	474	562	472	447	6,028
1963	525	422	478	524	574								
(b) Mature chickens													
1959	33	24	31	42	45	36	34	53	67	79	60	50	553
1960	39	38	30	19	26	33	38	51	66	75	66	54	535
1961	47	29	31	33	42	39	33	56	76	75	65	54	579
1962	52	28	37	37	42	41	39	47	56	81	71	58	587
1963	49	36	34	40	47								
(c) Total chickens													
1959	364	337	395	445	465	493	476	484	501	504	399	368	5,232
1960	393	387	427	439	486	504	485	576	540	525	466	444	5,672
1961	459	384	493	531	623	650	601	642	588	607	488	437	6,503
1962	476	411	508	538	634	621	587	620	529	643	544	505	6,615
1963	574	457	512	565	621								
(d) Fryer-roaster turkeys													
1959	6	6	9	10	11	13	12	12	15	16	14	11	136
1960	6	7	10	9	9	9	8	12	12	15	13	11	120
1961	9	7	16	10	12	11	11	14	13	17	15	13	148
1962	7	6	9	9	8	8	10	13	11	16	15	12	124
1963	6	6	8	8	9								
(e) Young turkeys													
1959	21	8	4	7	12	21	42	83	144	215	225	133	915
1960	21	10	5	8	17	27	51	125	175	226	213	143	1,020
1961	33	11	12	13	30	56	87	162	211	295	298	160	1,368
1962	34	9	7	12	20	32	59	137	194	280	276	149	1,207
1963	32	9	5	8	13								
(f) Old turkeys													
1959	1	1	2	5	15	16	4	3	1	1	2	1	53
1960	1	1	2	4	8	22	6	2	1	1	1	2	50
1961	2	2	4	5	13	25	6	3	1	1	1	2	65
1962	1	1	2	3	13	17	5	3	1	1	2/	1	48
1963	1	1	3	6	17								
(g) Total turkeys													
1959	28	14	16	22	39	50	59	98	160	232	241	145	1,104
1960	27	18	17	21	34	58	65	139	188	242	227	155	1,190
1961	44	20	31	28	56	91	104	180	226	313	314	174	1,581
1962	43	16	17	24	41	56	74	152	205	297	291	161	1,379
1963	39	17	16	21	39								
(h) Ducks													
1959	1.2	1.0	2.2	5.1	5.9	8.3	8.5	6.8	6.1	4.4	2.8	2.0	54.4
1960	1.2	1.6	3.2	5.8	8.0	7.9	7.3	8.3	6.8	5.4	4.3	2.4	62.3
1961	1.5	1.1	2.4	5.4	7.2	8.7	8.2	8.2	6.2	5.3	4.0	2.4	60.5
1962	1.0	.8	2.4	5.9	7.9	7.2	7.9	7.6	6.1	6.3	4.0	2.6	59.6
1963	1.3	.9	2.6	6.5	8.5								
(i) Other poultry													
1959	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.6	0.7	0.6	2.5	0.7	6.0
1960	.1	.1	.1	.1	.1	.1	.2	.6	.6	.3	1.8	.4	4.4
1961	.1	.1	.1	.1	.1	.3	.2	.6	.8	.8	2.4	.4	5.8
1962	.1	.1	.1	.1	.2	.2	.2	.3	.6	.9	2.9	.4	6.2
1963	.2	.1	.1	.1	.2								
(j) Total poultry 1/													
1959	393	352	413	472	510	552	544	589	668	741	645	515	6,396
1960	422	406	447	466	529	570	557	723	735	772	699	602	6,929
1961	504	405	527	564	685	750	713	830	821	927	809	614	8,150
1962	520	428	528	568	683	685	669	781	741	948	841	669	8,060
1963	615	475	530	593	669								

1/ Totals may not add due to rounding. 2/ Less than 1 million.

Table 8.--Poultry certified under USDA inspection, and poultry canned or used in prepared foods as a percentage of farm marketings, 1955-62

Item 1/	Unit	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
Young chickens or broilers:									
Farm marketings	Mil. lb.	2,345	3,010	3,325	3,883	4,149	4,332	4,949	4,998
Certified under USDA inspection:									
Quantity	Mil. lb.	---	611	734	1,008	3,431	3,699	4,287	4,361
Percentage of farm marketings	Pct.	---	20	22	26	83	85	87	87
Canned or used in prepared foods:									
Quantity	Mil. lb.	6	16	23	38	52	102	78	87
Percentage of farm marketings	Pct.	0.3	0.5	0.7	1.0	1.3	2.4	1.6	1.7
Mature or farm chickens:									
Farm marketings	Mil. lb.	826	787	684	705	739	615	648	619
Certified under USDA inspection:									
Quantity	Mil. lb.	---	239	223	262	393	372	398	401
Percentage of farm marketings	Pct.	---	30	33	37	53	60	61	65
Canned or used in prepared foods:									
Quantity	Mil. lb.	70	147	156	162	156	192	217	219
Percentage of farm marketings	Pct.	8	19	23	23	21	31	33	35
Turkeys:									
Farm marketings	Mil. lb.	810	948	1,025	1,031	1,117	1,162	1,506	1,302
Certified under USDA inspection:									
Quantity	Mil. lb.	409	577	700	747	883	948	1,256	1,097
Percentage of farm marketings	Pct.	50	61	68	72	79	82	83	84
Canned or used in prepared foods:									
Quantity	Mil. lb.	---	33	48	62	80	102	105	148
Percentage of farm marketings	Pct.	---	3	5	6	7	9	7	11

1/ Ready-to-cook equivalent.

Table 9.--Turkey prices per pound: Selected series, by months, January 1957 to date

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Yearly average
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
(a) Average farm price, mid-month (live), United States													
1957	26.6	25.3	25.5	25.8	24.2	23.3	21.8	22.7	22.9	22.3	23.5	24.5	23.4
1958	22.0	24.6	26.7	26.7	27.3	25.5	24.5	24.8	23.7	23.9	23.0	23.3	23.9
1959	23.8	24.4	23.4	22.4	22.2	22.1	22.2	21.7	22.4	22.4	24.9	29.5	23.9
1960	27.8	26.0	26.8	27.5	26.1	24.1	23.2	23.7	24.5	25.6	25.9	26.6	25.4
1961	25.2	23.9	23.6	22.1	21.4	20.4	19.5	19.6	18.2	17.3	18.0	18.5	18.9
1962	18.3	19.3	20.8	21.6	20.6	20.0	20.8	20.2	21.3	22.0	22.7	23.0	21.6
1963	22.1	22.2	22.5	22.0	21.6	21.8							
(b) Live, heavy-type young toms, San Joaquin Valley, California													
1957	26.5	---	---	---	21.9	19.8	17.2	20.4	20.4	18.7	19.5	19.2	---
1958	19.1	---	---	---	24.1	22.2	21.4	22.3	19.7	20.0	19.0	21.1	---
1959	24.2	---	---	---	22.6	25.4	23.6	20.5	21.6	22.2	26.0	31.2	---
1960	28.5	27.2	---	25.2	24.7	23.1	22.2	22.7	23.1	24.6	23.9	25.4	---
1961	23.3	21.4	21.2	19.5	19.1	18.0	17.6	18.4	16.2	16.3	18.0	16.9	17.7
1962	---	---	---	19.2	18.3	17.7	18.3	18.0	19.0	20.2	21.0	20.7	19.2
1963	21.4	23.0	22.4	20.5	20.6	22.9							
(c) Live, heavy-type hens, San Joaquin Valley, California													
1957	---	---	---	---	23.6	20.8	20.1	21.3	21.9	21.6	23.8	26.2	---
1958	23.8	---	---	---	31.5	27.4	25.5	25.5	23.3	24.3	22.9	23.2	---
1959	23.6	---	---	---	23.7	23.3	21.4	21.3	22.6	23.5	27.6	34.5	---
1960	29.1	---	--	29.6	26.7	24.6	22.7	24.0	25.0	27.3	28.2	33.1	---
1961	25.8	25.4	25.0	21.6	21.5	20.8	19.9	20.6	18.4	18.4	20.4	20.8	20.3
1962	---	---	22.4	23.7	20.7	20.5	20.4	19.6	20.2	22.6	24.7	25.2	22.0
1963	24.0	24.8	26.5	26.3	23.3	22.6							
(d) Frozen eviscerated toms, heaviest weights quoted, New York City													
1957	47.9	44.8	45.3	44.3	44.3	43.5	40.5	39.8	39.9	38.1	40.1	40.3	42.4
1958	39.8	39.7	39.5	40.2	42.5	43.0	41.9	41.0	40.6	41.6	40.5	40.8	40.9
1959	43.8	45.2	39.5	40.2	47.4	53.6	53.2	49.5	51.4	48.4	48.2	48.2	47.4
1960	47.1	46.0	47.1	48.4	48.2	46.6	43.7	41.9	42.5	41.8	42.1	41.2	44.7
1961	40.7	40.1	39.1	38.0	37.8	35.9	35.0	36.0	35.7	35.2	34.3	34.4	36.8
1962	35.2	37.3	38.9	38.6	38.0	37.0	37.6	37.0	37.5	39.6	38.7	37.5	38.0
1963	38.0	38.9	38.5	38.7	40.1	40.2							
(e) Frozen eviscerated hens, 12-14 pounds, New York City													
1957	41.5	39.6	42.5	---	44.0	---	---	37.7	38.1	38.7	41.7	44.7	33.5
1958	43.5	44.6	48.6	---	---	47.8	42.0	42.0	40.3	41.1	40.6	39.6	---
1959	40.1	40.6	48.6	---	38.4	38.1	36.7	36.3	36.9	38.9	43.0	49.2	---
1960	49.2	49.0	49.6	51.0	48.0	42.4	38.6	39.2	40.3	42.8	43.9	46.6	45.0
1961	45.2	44.1	43.6	39.5	38.0	34.9	33.1	34.8	32.8	33.5	34.2	33.8	37.3
1962	33.4	35.2	35.9	36.7	36.1	35.3	35.9	36.0	37.6	38.3	39.1	39.2	36.6
1963	39.5	39.0	38.5	38.2	38.2	38.2							
(f) Live, Beltsville Small Whites, Shenandoah Valley, Virginia													
1957	25.5	26.2	25.8	26.0	24.3	23.0	22.9	23.7	23.2	23.8	26.7	27.4	---
1958	24.9	28.6	30.8	29.3	29.6	27.4	24.4	25.0	24.3	25.5	25.7	24.3	---
1959	23.4	25.4	23.2	21.5	22.2	22.6	20.8	20.0	20.0	21.7	26.0	28.8	---
1960	24.8	30.0	28.2	27.8	27.2	23.8	22.9	24.2	25.0	28.2	26.4	25.3	26.1
1961	23.2	24.1	23.2	21.6	21.1	19.3	18.1	18.8	17.8	16.5	19.0	18.6	20.1
1962	---	---	23.6	23.6	20.9	20.3	22.1	22.0	23.4	25.6	24.6	23.9	23.0
1963	22.0	---	23.2	21.5	23.2	22.4							
(g) Live, heavy-type toms, Iowa													
1957	---	---	---	---	---	---	19.6	20.6	20.5	19.3	21.0	---	---
1958	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	23.6	21.6	21.5	20.2	---	---
1959	---	---	---	---	---	23.2	24.5	20.7	23.0	22.4	25.1	---	---
1960	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	23.8	24.2	24.3	24.1	---	---
1961	---	---	---	---	---	---	16.1	17.2	14.6	14.3	14.4	---	---
1962	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	19.0	20.3	20.5	20.8	---	---
1963	---	---	---	---	---	---							
(h) Live, heavy-type hens, Iowa													
1957	---	---	---	---	---	---	21.9	22.7	23.1	23.5	26.1	---	---
1958	---	---	---	---	---	---	25.8	27.7	25.2	26.2	24.0	---	---
1959	---	---	---	---	---	22.7	21.7	22.0	23.0	23.9	26.1	---	---
1960	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	25.4	26.4	28.5	29.0	---	---
1961	---	---	---	---	---	---	18.2	19.3	16.3	16.2	16.4	---	---
1962	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	21.0	23.2	23.4	23.9	---	---
1963	---	---	---	---	---	---							

1/ Preliminary.

Table 10.--Turkeys: Storage stocks, Mainland States, first of the month, 1950 to date and selected storage centers beginning of the week, August 1962 to date

Year or week	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	Mainland States, first of the month											
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
1950	127	138	129	113	93	77	64	47	37	43	77	108
1951	110	117	101	80	60	48	39	30	25	42	83	109
1952	107	116	107	93	72	63	56	46	44	71	142	158
1953	147	143	118	92	72	60	53	44	46	69	126	135
1954	122	125	109	97	79	69	57	48	51	78	141	147
1955	121	124	111	93	71	60	52	45	48	77	144	129
1956	95	96	83	64	49	41	36	36	53	98	197	194
1957	162	170	150	137	109	98	92	90	102	149	241	220
1958	177	179	154	131	105	84	80	79	104	161	255	208
1959	162	160	141	112	87	68	65	67	87	134	220	183
1960	149	142	124	105	87	74	67	71	113	186	282	210
1961	160	172	152	126	108	94	106	128	189	270	382	318
1962	263	251	219	191	156	132	121	123	160	233	340	265
1963	203	198	176	153	117	96	90					
	Selected storage centers, beginning of the week											
Weeks	1963							1962				
First	137	131	120	107	80	67	61	90	113	150	209	166
Second	137	129	117	100	76	65	60	93	120	161	210	170
Third	137	129	115	93	72	62	60	98	130	178	177	161
Fourth	135	126	112	89	68	62	62	104	141	192	160	139
Fifth				85						200		136

Table 11.--Turkeys: Hatchings of poults, by breed types, monthly and cumulative, September 1958 to date

Year and month	For the month				Cumulative, years beginning September			
	Heavy breeds		Light breeds	All turkeys	Heavy breeds		Light breeds	All turkeys
	White	All			White	All		
	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.
1958 September	0.5	0.5	0.5	1.1	0.5	0.5	0.5	1.1
October	.6	.7	.5	1.2	1.1	1.3	1.0	2.3
November	.8	1.1	.7	1.8	1.9	2.4	1.7	4.0
December	1.1	1.7	1.1	2.8	3.0	4.1	2.8	6.9
1959 January	1.1	2.4	1.6	4.0	4.2	6.5	4.3	10.9
February	1.1	4.6	1.4	6.0	5.3	11.2	5.7	16.9
March	2.0	11.5	1.8	13.3	7.2	22.7	7.5	30.2
April	2.8	16.5	2.0	18.5	10.1	39.2	9.5	48.7
May	3.7	17.4	2.5	19.9	13.7	56.6	12.0	68.6
June	3.1	11.9	2.2	14.2	16.8	68.5	14.3	82.8
July	2.1	4.4	1.9	6.3	18.9	72.9	16.2	89.1
August	1.0	1.1	1.1	2.2	19.9	74.0	17.3	91.2
September	.8	.8	.4	1.2	.8	.8	.4	1.2
October	.9	1.0	.3	1.3	1.6	1.8	.7	2.5
November	1.2	1.6	.4	1.9	2.8	3.4	1.1	4.4
December	1.2	2.1	.6	2.7	4.1	5.5	1.6	7.1
1960 January	1.2	3.2	.6	3.8	5.3	8.6	2.2	10.8
February	1.5	6.9	.8	7.8	6.8	15.5	3.1	18.6
March	2.7	13.9	1.0	14.9	9.5	29.5	4.1	33.5
April	3.4	16.6	1.1	17.7	12.9	46.1	5.2	51.2
May	3.8	16.1	1.6	17.7	16.7	62.2	6.8	69.0
June	3.4	11.5	1.7	13.2	20.1	73.7	8.5	82.2
July	2.3	5.0	1.6	6.7	22.4	78.7	10.1	88.8
August	1.3	1.7	1.1	2.9	23.7	80.4	11.2	91.7
September	.9	1.0	.6	1.6	.9	1.0	.6	1.6
October	1.1	1.4	.5	1.9	2.0	2.4	1.1	3.5
November	1.3	2.0	.6	2.6	3.3	4.4	1.7	6.1
December	1.9	3.5	.9	4.4	5.2	7.9	2.5	10.5
1961 January	2.3	5.4	1.0	6.4	7.5	13.4	3.5	16.9
February	2.7	9.7	.8	10.5	10.1	23.0	4.3	27.4
March	4.7	18.0	1.1	19.1	14.9	41.0	5.4	46.5
April	5.1	20.5	1.6	22.1	20.0	61.6	7.0	68.6
May	5.8	20.8	2.1	22.8	25.8	82.3	9.1	91.4
June	4.9	14.4	1.9	16.4	30.7	96.8	11.0	107.8
July	3.1	6.0	1.8	7.8	33.8	102.8	12.8	115.6
August	1.7	2.0	1.0	3.0	35.5	104.8	13.8	118.7
September	1.0	1.2	.4	1.6	1.0	1.2	.4	1.6
October	1.1	1.4	.3	1.7	2.1	2.6	.7	3.3
November	1.4	1.8	.3	2.0	3.5	4.4	1.0	5.4
December	1.8	2.4	.3	2.7	5.3	6.8	1.3	8.1
1962 January	2.0	3.2	.4	3.5	7.3	10.0	1.7	11.6
February	2.1	5.6	.5	6.1	9.4	15.5	2.2	17.7
March	4.1	14.1	.7	14.8	13.5	29.6	2.9	32.5
April	5.3	19.5	.9	20.4	18.9	49.1	3.9	52.9
May	6.3	20.8	1.5	22.3	25.2	69.8	5.4	75.2
June	4.7	13.7	1.6	15.3	29.9	83.6	6.9	90.5
July	2.9	6.0	1.5	7.5	32.8	89.6	8.4	98.0
August	1.5	1.9	1.1	3.0	34.3	91.5	9.5	101.0
September	1.0	1.1	.4	1.5	1.0	1.1	.4	1.5
October	.9	1.0	.4	1.4	1.8	2.1	.8	2.9
November	.9	1.0	.3	1.3	2.7	3.1	1.1	4.2
December	1.0	1.5	.5	1.9	3.8	4.6	1.6	6.2
1963 January	1.5	2.7	.6	3.3	5.3	7.3	2.2	9.5
February	2.6	7.0	.6	7.6	7.9	14.3	2.8	17.1
March	5.0	15.8	.7	16.6	12.8	30.1	3.6	33.7
April	5.7	19.2	.9	20.1	18.6	49.4	4.5	53.9
May	6.2	19.4	1.5	21.0	24.8	68.8	6.0	74.8
June	5.3	14.0	1.5	15.5	30.1	82.8	7.5	90.3
July 1/	3.1	6.2	1.7	7.8	33.2	89.0	9.2	98.1

1/ Assuming that July hatch will be proportionate to number of eggs in incubators July 1.

Table 12.--Turkey hatchery operations, United States and important reporting States, January 1962 to date, with comparisons

Month	United States						Important reporting States			
	Poults hatched during the month				Egg in incubators first day of month, percentage change from year ago		Monthly average of weekly percentage changes from year ago			
	Reported		Percentage change from year ago				Eggs set in preceding month		Poults hatched	
	1962	1963	1962	1963	1962	1963	1962	1963	1962	1963
	Thou.	Thou.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
					Heavy white breeds					
January	2,012	1,508	-12	-25	-2	-37	*+4	*-41	-5	-27
February	2,091	2,594	-21	+24	-19	+7	-16	+2	-16	+18
March	4,109	4,978	-13	+21	-9	+11	-3	+5	-10	+22
April	5,329	5,747	+4	+8	+3	+8	+18	+1	+18	+5
May	6,324	6,196	+9	-2	+11	-1	+17	-2	+13	-4
June	4,721	5,314	-5	+13	-1	+20	-5	+18	-11	+25
July	2,874		-6		-9	+8	-7	+4	*-4	*1/+9
August	1,547		-10		-7		*-15	*1/-8	*-13	
September	968		-3		-4		*-7		*-3	
October	882		-22		-16		*-20		*-28	
November	864		-37		-39		*-48		*-53	
December	1,046		-43		-46		*-48		*-47	
					Other heavy breeds					
January	1,169	1,210	-63	+4	-62	-16	*-62	*-27	-62	-11
February	3,491	4,402	-50	+26	-50	+15	-49	+2	-48	+10
March	9,957	10,867	-25	+9	-28	+8	-22	+1	-21	+4
April	14,126	13,486	-8	-5	-11	-7	-13	-6	-9	-5
May	14,455	13,245	-4	-8	-10	-6	-9	-5	-2	-6
June	8,995	8,649	-5	-4	-5	-3	-3	+2	-4	+3
July	3,143		+6		-1	-2	+13	-3	*+20	*1/-5
August	353		+13		+2		*+20	*1/+4	*+38	
September	110		-52		-43		*-38		*-58	
October	136		-47		-34		*-68		*-65	
November	168		-56		-57		*-75		*-79	
December	406		-30		-39		*-24		*-18	
					Total - all heavy breeds					
January	3,181	2,718	-41	-15	-36	-30	*-33	*-37	-40	-21
February	5,582	6,996	-42	+25	-41	+12	-40	+2	-40	+13
March	14,066	15,845	-22	+13	-22	+9	-17	+3	-18	+9
April	19,455	19,233	-5	-1	-7	-3	-6	-4	-3	-3
May	20,779	19,441	0	-6	-4	-5	-3	-4	+2	-6
June	13,716	13,963	-5	+2	-4	+5	-4	+7	-6	+10
July	6,017		0		-5	+3	+4	0	*+8	*1/+1
August	1,900		-6		-5		*-8	*1/-4	*-6	
September	1,078		-13		-11		*-10		*-11	
October	1,018		-26		-19		*-27		*-33	
November	1,032		-41		-43		*-53		*-58	
December	1,452		-40		-44		*-43		*-41	
					Light breeds					
January	357	605	-63	+69	-62	+63	*-67	*+100	-67	+71
February	524	645	-37	+23	-33	+19	-44	+11	-40	+13
March	745	744	-32	0	-32	-5	-34	-15	-34	-5
April	925	912	-42	-1	-42	-8	-46	-13	-49	-3
May	1,495	1,527	-27	+2	-28	-3	-33	-3	-32	-2
June	1,582	1,502	-19	-5	-23	-9	-28	-10	-22	-10
July	1,505		-16		-17	+10	-21	+11	*-22	*1/-12
August	1,055		+6		-4		*-21	*1/+5	*-5	
September	437		+14		+4		*+16		*+9	
October	362		+18		+3		*-6		*-3	
November	295		0		+4		*0		*+9	
December	496		+55		+53		*+86		*+74	
					Total - all breeds					
January	3,538	3,323	-45	-6	-39	-22	*-39	*-25	-45	-12
February	6,106	7,641	-42	+25	-41	+12	-40	+3	-40	+13
March	14,811	16,589	-32	+12	-23	+8	-18	+2	-19	+8
April	20,380	20,145	-8	-1	-10	-3	-9	-4	-7	-3
May	22,274	20,968	-2	-6	-6	-4	-6	-4	-2	-6
June	15,298	15,465	-7	+1	-6	+4	-7	+5	-9	+8
July	7,522		-4		-7	+4	-2	+2	*+1	*1/-1
August	2,955		-2		-5		*-12	*1/-2	*-6	
September	1,515		-7		-7		*-5		*-7	
October	1,380		-18		-15		*-24		*-29	
November	1,327		-35		-36		*-47		*-50	
December	1,948		-28		-34		*-31		*-29	

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*Percentage changes of hatchings or settings based on 5 States (Calif., Minn., Mo., Ohio, and Va.) for weeks July through December and 10 States (5 States already mentioned plus Iowa, Ore., Wash., Texas, and S. Car.) for weeks January through June.

1/ Based on first two reported weeks of July.

Table 13.--Poults hatched, by regions, September-July, 1961-62 and 1962-63

Period and region	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July
	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.
By months:											
1961-62:											
New England	1	7	19	8	2	3	44	157	309	243	152
Middle Atlantic	15	15	25	7	27	81	198	335	597	423	248
East North Central	262	152	193	334	223	528	1,713	2,597	3,292	2,562	1,193
West North Central	1,032	895	807	929	1,117	2,126	5,858	7,550	7,693	4,484	2,065
South Atlantic	146	215	243	287	471	469	951	1,381	2,049	1,570	1,091
South Central	42	72	107	198	196	429	1,588	2,605	2,640	1,635	370
West	131	331	652	961	1,502	2,470	4,459	5,755	5,694	4,381	2,403
Total	1,629	1,687	2,046	2,724	3,538	6,106	14,811	20,380	22,274	15,298	7,522
1962-63 1/:											
New England	0	0	0	7	15	36	39	152	298	294	169
Middle Atlantic	3	0	2	13	15	44	152	283	572	482	250
East North Central	248	191	269	322	314	660	2,044	2,793	3,099	2,387	1,181
West North Central	929	758	544	629	1,083	2,833	6,458	7,207	7,076	4,692	2,251
South Atlantic	148	239	383	394	501	749	1,303	1,649	2,176	1,663	1,353
South Central	61	42	37	39	278	898	1,828	2,596	2,402	1,541	440
West	126	150	92	544	1,117	2,421	4,765	5,465	5,345	4,406	2,211
Total	1,515	1,380	1,327	1,948	3,323	7,641	16,589	20,145	20,968	15,465	7,855
Cumulative:											
1961-62:											
New England	1	8	27	35	37	40	84	241	550	793	945
Middle Atlantic	15	30	55	62	89	170	368	703	1,300	1,723	1,971
East North Central	262	414	607	941	1,164	1,692	3,405	6,002	9,294	11,856	13,049
West North Central	1,032	1,927	2,734	3,663	4,780	6,906	12,764	20,314	28,007	32,491	34,556
South Atlantic	146	361	604	891	1,362	1,831	2,782	4,163	6,212	7,782	8,873
South Central	42	114	221	419	615	1,044	2,632	5,237	7,877	9,512	9,882
West	131	462	1,114	2,075	3,577	6,047	10,506	16,261	21,955	26,336	28,739
Total	1,629	3,316	5,362	8,086	11,624	17,730	32,541	52,921	75,195	90,493	98,015
1962-63 1/:											
New England	0	0	0	7	22	58	97	249	547	841	1,010
Middle Atlantic	3	3	5	18	33	77	229	512	1,084	1,566	1,816
East North Central	248	439	708	1,030	1,344	2,004	4,048	6,841	9,940	12,327	13,508
West North Central	929	1,687	2,231	2,860	3,943	6,776	13,234	20,441	27,517	32,209	34,460
South Atlantic	148	387	770	1,164	1,665	2,414	3,717	5,366	7,542	9,205	10,558
South Central	61	103	140	179	457	1,355	3,183	5,779	8,181	9,722	10,162
West	126	276	368	912	2,029	4,450	9,215	14,680	20,025	24,431	26,642
Total	1,515	2,895	4,222	6,170	9,493	17,134	33,723	53,868	74,836	90,301	98,156

1/ July data based on assumption July hatch will be proportionate to number of eggs in incubators July 1.

Table 14.--Ready-to-cook turkeys: U.S.D.A. purchases, annually 1951-60, by weeks 1959-62

Year	Size of turkey crop: Head raised	Size of turkey crop: Ready-to-cook weight	Duration of program: Number of weeks	Duration of program: Begin and end	Purchases	Range of prices per pound	Cost of purchases
	Mil.	Mil. lb.	Weeks	Months	Thou. lb.	Cents	Thou. dol.
1951	53	703		no program			
1952	62	795			27,852	n.a.	n.a.
1953	60	758			20,327	n.a.	n.a.
1954	68	870		no program			
1955	66	818		no program			
1956	77	957	10	Sept.-Nov.	25,366	37.00-39.50	10,400
1957	81	1,034		no program			
1958	80	1,038	28	Aug.-Feb.	23,560	31.29-37.50	7,969
1959	84	1,123	4	Sept.-Oct.	21,570	33.09-35.24	7,416
1960	85	1,162	4	Sept.-Oct.	18,850	34.74-37.37	6,800
1961	108	1,508	10	Aug.-Nov.	60,090	25.25-33.33	17,065

Year	Contracts let: in week ending	Purchases: For the week	Purchases: Cumulative for the year	Range of prices per pound	Cost of purchases: For the week	Cost of purchases: Cumulative for the year
		Thou. lb.	Thou. lb.	Cents	Thou. lb.	Thou. dol.
1959						
	Sept. 10	6,090	6,090	32.17-35.99	2,000	2,000
	17	7,230	13,330	33.34-35.99	2,500	4,500
	24	4,410	17,730	33.59-35.94	1,500	6,000
	Oct. 1	3,840	21,570	33.09-35.24	1,300	[1]7,416
1960						
	Sept. 15	4,110	4,110	34.74-36.95	1,500	1,500
	22	9,060	13,170	35.21-37.00	3,300	4,700
	28	2,250	15,480	35.48-37.47	800	5,600
	Oct. 5	3,370	18,850	35.74-37.37	1,200	6,800
1961						
	Aug. 18	7,810	7,810	28.95-31.95	2,388	2,388
	Sept. 1	9,625	17,435	29.07-31.25	2,885	5,273
	15	10,230	27,665	26.83-29.75	2,878	8,151
	21	10,285	37,950	25.98-29.94	2,820	10,971
	29	10,065	47,465	25.93-28.44	2,577	13,548
	Oct. 6	7,315	55,330	26.60-28.95	2,016	15,712
	13	1,760	57,090	27.37-29.39	500	16,212
	19	770	57,860	25.25-28.94	213	16,425
	27	2,090	59,950	27.45-29.19	593	17,018
	Nov. 3 [2]	140	60,090	33.33	47	17,065
1962						
	Sept. 21	2,695	2,695	30.97-33.59	869	869
	27	7,590	10,285	31.39-33.75	2,444	3,314
	Oct. 4	7,425	17,710	31.69-33.74	2,401	5,715
	11	6,765	24,475	31.69-33.74	2,204	7,919
	19	5,225	29,700	31.69-33.74	1,702	9,621
	25	4,400	34,100	31.69-33.74	1,437	11,058
	Nov. 2	4,180	38,280	31.74-33.74	1,363	12,421
	8	2,475	40,755	31.89-33.74	812	13,234
	16	2,145	42,900	31.48-32.96	695	13,928

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[1] Total cost as reported. [2] Purchased for use in school lunches in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. N.A. - Not available.

Table 15.--Feed units required per unit of eggs and poultry production, 1940-62 1/
(Includes data for cover chart)

Year ending October	Per dozen eggs	Per pound liveweight	
		Turkey	Broiler
	Feed units	Feed units	Feed units
1940	7.2	7.2	4.8
1945	7.4	6.5	4.5
1950	7.7	5.9	3.8
1955	6.5	5.4	3.4
1960	6.5	5.2	3.0
1962	6.4	5.4	3.0

1/ Feed units used per dozen eggs or per pound of liveweight turkey or broiler produced. A feed unit is the economic equivalent of one pound of corn.

Table 16.--Egg prices, selected dates, 1963 with comparisons

Item	Unit	1962				1963			
		May 15	June 15	July 16	Aug. 15	Apr. 15	May 15	June 14	July 15
U. S. average price received by farmers	Dozen	29.0	28.4	29.6	32.7	32.4	29.5	29.5	
Iowa, prices received by farmers 1/:									
Grade A, Large	do.	21-22	22-23	24-25	29-30	23-24	22-23	23-24	23-24
Grade A, Medium	do.	16-18	16-17	17-18	21-22	18-19	18-19	18	18-20
New York, wholesale prices									
Extras, mixed colors 2/									
Large, 65-70 percent A	do.	29½-31	29-30½	33½-34½	38½-39½	31½-32½	29-30	32-33	32½-34
Medium, 55-60 percent A	do.	23-24	22½-23½	26½-27½	31-32½	27½-28½	23-23½	---	25-26
Minimum 10 percent AA, white 3/									
Large	do.	29½-33	33-36	37-40	43-46	33-34½	28½-31	33-35½	34½-37½
Medium	do.	24-26	24-26	28-30	32½-34½	29-30	22½-24½	25½-27	25-26½
Small (pullets)	do.	20-21	17½-18½	18-19	20½-21½	24½-25	18½-20	21-22	18½-19½
Frozen egg 4/									
Mixed whole egg, dark colored	Pound	26-29	25½-28½	23½-28½	25-28½	27½-29½	26½-29	27-29	27-29
Yolk 5/	do.	58-59	57-59	57-59	57-60	56-58	55½-57	55-57	55-58
Albumen	do.	10-12	10-12	9¾-12	10½-12	12¾-14	12½-13½	12½-14	13½-15
Chicago									
Wholesale price, f.o.b.									
60-79.9%, A, weighted average									
Mixed colors, extras, Large	Dozen	27.00	27.07	30.55	35.62	29.00	27.73	29.05	30.32
Medium	do.	24.50	23.00	25.11	29.62	26.50	25.08	25.03	25.00
Future contracts:									
September delivery (closing price)	do.	33.00	30.50	31.50	33.60	33.60	33.15	34.75	34.55
San Francisco, price to retailers, cartoned									
Grade AA, Large	do.	33-39	34-40	39-45	38-44	37-43	36-42	36-43	40-47
Grade AA, Medium	do.	25-32	25-32	27-34	32-38	33-40	32-39	28-35	33-39

1/ "Mostly," except where otherwise stated.
2/ Midwestern.
3/ Nearby.
4/ Carlots, price for week including specified date.
5/ Highest color quoted.

Table 17.--Number of layers on farms, rate of egg production, and total egg output on farms, by months, January 1956 to date*

Item and year	Unit	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
		(a) Average for the month											
Average number of layers on farms													
1956	Million	332	325	316	305	295	286	282	289	307	323	332	336
1957	do.	333	325	316	305	294	284	280	286	300	313	321	324
1958	do.	321	314	307	299	290	284	282	288	301	315	324	329
1959	do.	327	321	316	308	297	286	281	286	299	311	317	319
1960	do.	316	309	302	295	288	281	276	277	285	295	303	308
1961	do.	305	300	296	291	285	281	278	281	292	302	308	311
1962	do.	309	306	302	296	290	284	282	285	294	302	307	307
1963	do.	305	301	299	296	291	286						
Eggs laid per 100 layers													
1956	Eggs	1,561	1,585	1,832	1,839	1,891	1,746	1,695	1,589	1,457	1,497	1,466	1,566
1957	do.	1,606	1,543	1,862	1,872	1,919	1,772	1,718	1,621	1,491	1,489	1,459	1,588
1958	do.	1,664	1,537	1,806	1,861	1,933	1,796	1,757	1,660	1,530	1,564	1,548	1,632
1959	do.	1,676	1,612	1,908	1,911	1,963	1,828	1,798	1,701	1,565	1,580	1,542	1,661
1960	do.	1,719	1,667	1,851	1,873	1,969	1,850	1,816	1,736	1,601	1,600	1,561	1,649
1961	do.	1,699	1,634	1,923	1,903	1,952	1,833	1,815	1,739	1,616	1,645	1,617	1,697
1962	do.	1,712	1,618	1,902	1,901	1,972	1,859	1,840	1,757	1,646	1,680	1,637	1,706
1963	do.	1,698	1,593	1,895	1,906	1,966	1,855						
Total monthly egg production	Million												
1956	cases	14.4	14.3	16.1	15.6	15.5	13.8	13.3	12.8	12.4	13.5	13.5	14.6
1957	do.	14.9	13.9	16.3	15.9	15.7	14.0	13.3	12.9	12.4	13.0	13.0	14.3
1958	do.	14.8	13.4	15.4	15.4	15.6	14.2	13.8	13.2	12.8	13.7	13.9	14.9
1959	do.	15.2	14.4	16.7	16.3	16.2	14.5	14.1	13.5	13.0	13.6	13.6	14.7
1960	do.	15.1	14.3	15.5	15.4	15.8	14.4	13.9	13.3	12.7	13.1	13.1	14.1
1961	do.	14.4	13.6	15.8	15.4	15.5	14.3	14.0	13.6	13.1	13.8	13.8	14.7
1962	do.	14.7	13.7	16.0	15.7	15.9	14.7	14.4	13.9	13.4	14.1	13.9	14.6
1963	do.	14.4	13.3	15.7	15.7	15.9	14.7						
		(b) First-of-month											
Number of layers on farms													
1956	Million	334	329	322	310	300	290	281	282	296	317	329	335
1957	do.	337	328	321	310	300	289	279	280	292	309	317	324
1958	do.	324	317	311	304	294	286	281	283	292	309	320	329
1959	do.	330	324	319	312	303	291	281	282	291	306	315	319
1960	do.	319	313	306	299	292	284	278	275	279	291	299	307
1961	do.	308	302	298	295	288	283	279	278	285	299	305	310
1962	do.	312	307	304	300	293	286	281	282	288	300	305	308
1963	do.	307	303	300	298	294	288	284					
Eggs laid per 100 layers													
1956	Eggs	48.6	52.0	57.4	60.8	61.8	60.3	56.1	53.2	49.3	47.9	48.6	49.1
1957	do.	51.8	51.9	58.3	61.9	63.0	60.8	57.3	53.5	51.0	48.4	47.8	49.6
1958	do.	52.9	54.5	55.3	60.8	63.2	61.5	58.2	55.1	52.0	50.0	50.9	52.4
1959	do.	52.9	55.2	59.9	63.2	64.0	62.6	59.3	56.6	53.1	51.3	50.7	52.2
1960	do.	54.9	56.0	58.9	60.6	64.2	62.9	60.0	57.3	54.7	52.0	51.2	52.8
1961	do.	53.6	55.9	60.8	63.2	63.6	62.4	60.0	57.3	54.9	52.9	53.3	54.5
1962	do.	55.0	55.4	60.2	62.6	64.2	63.1	60.9	57.8	55.4	54.3	54.1	55.0
1963	do.	55.0	54.6	59.1	63.1	63.9	62.9	60.8					
Daily rate of egg production	Million												
1956	eggs	162	171	185	189	186	175	158	150	146	152	160	164
1957	do.	175	170	187	192	189	176	160	150	149	150	152	161
1958	do.	171	173	172	185	186	176	164	156	152	155	163	172
1959	do.	175	179	191	198	194	182	167	159	155	157	160	166
1960	do.	175	175	180	181	187	179	167	157	153	151	153	162
1961	do.	165	169	181	186	183	176	167	159	156	158	163	169
1962	do.	171	170	183	188	188	181	171	163	160	163	165	169
1963	do.	169	165	177	188	188	181	173					

* 48 States.

Table 18.--Factors in monthly supply of shell eggs, 1960 to date*

Year and item	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases
1960													
Eggs produced on farms	15,092	14,319	15,542	15,356	15,753	14,442	13,936	13,344	12,672	13,117	13,144	14,092	170,809
Shell eggs to storage	116	41	-164	118	454	357	-81	-283	-263	-214	-173	-20	-112
Eggs broken commercially 1/	853	1,297	1,240	1,280	2,521	2,247	1,034	919	499	476	258	359	12,983
Eggs used for hatching	760	954	1,073	1,170	910	773	660	603	617	617	683	773	9,593
Balance	13,363	12,027	13,393	12,788	11,868	11,065	12,323	12,105	11,819	12,238	12,376	12,980	148,345
Government purchases:													
Dried 2/	255	248	202	116	25	---	376	282	222	29	8	---	1,763
1961													
Eggs produced on farms	14,394	13,617	15,831	15,394	15,467	14,289	14,033	13,597	13,100	13,803	13,828	14,653	172,006
Shell eggs to storage	4	-31	2	27	160	127	-51	-34	-55	-80	-62	-44	-37
Eggs broken commercially 1/	792	797	1,100	1,726	2,088	1,977	1,302	1,059	772	801	790	786	13,990
Eggs used for hatching	861	1,155	1,260	1,167	910	823	731	635	621	627	677	787	10,254
Balance	12,737	11,696	13,469	12,474	12,309	11,362	12,051	11,937	11,762	12,455	12,423	13,124	147,799
Government purchases:													
Dried 2/	---	345	642	186	421	382	108	---	---	---	---	---	2,084
1962													
Eggs produced on farms	14,708	13,736	15,961	15,653	15,872	14,656	14,395	13,919	13,439	14,114	13,947	14,561	174,961
Shell eggs to storage	-10	9	18	-4	270	75	-54	-93	-23	9	-74	-45	78
Eggs broken commercially 1/	812	938	1,457	1,562	2,277	2,230	1,713	1,238	815	704	584	534	14,865
Eggs used for hatching	801	1,102	1,197	1,153	907	823	747	699	741	737	737	789	10,433
Balance	13,105	11,687	13,289	12,942	12,418	11,528	11,989	12,075	11,906	12,664	12,700	13,283	149,585
Government purchases:													
Dried 2/	---	---	112	340	278	338	138	---	---	---	---	---	1,205
1963													
Eggs produced on farms	14,369	13,333	15,736	15,656	15,867	14,733							
Shell eggs to storage	-53	-35	22	5	144	80							
Eggs broken commercially 1/	650	737	1,333	1,860	2,169								
Eggs used for hatching	799	1,030	1,178	1,160	941								
Balance	12,973	11,601	13,203	12,631	12,613								
Government purchases:													
Dried 2/	---	---	---	155	298								

1/ Excluding equivalent of Government purchases of dried or frozen egg.
2/ Shell equivalent. * 48 States.

Table 19.--Monthly hatchings of replacement-type chicks, and chickens raised, 1957 to date*

Month and item	Unit	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963 1/
Hatchings							
January	Millions	34.0	35.8	23.3	31.5	28.2	31.2
February	do.	61.7	61.4	38.2	49.5	40.2	41.6
March	do.	112.9	117.8	71.6	91.1	78.6	71.1
April	do.	135.4	129.6	97.5	103.8	96.6	94.9
May	do.	109.7	85.8	99.7	84.9	83.5	80.7
June	do.	40.4	27.2	43.6	34.5	38.8	41.7
July	do.	18.2	14.0	18.8	21.3	24.4	2/28.3
August	do.	14.8	13.4	16.4	20.6	21.8	
September	do.	16.6	13.8	16.7	22.0	21.7	
October	do.	16.9	14.3	16.9	24.4	24.5	
November	do.	16.3	13.5	16.7	21.0	21.7	
December	do.	19.6	14.3	20.2	20.3	20.9	
Total, calendar year	do.	596.5	541.0	479.7	525.0	500.8	
Total, 12 months ending July of given year	do.	575.7	555.8	462.1	503.6	498.6	500.1
Chickens raised, calendar year	do.	421.4	386.0	331.8	345.0	317.3	313.4
Pullets on hand, January 1 following							
(a) Number	do.	246.0	225.0	210.1	219.3	212.4	
(b) As a percentage of chickens raised	Percent	58	58	63	64	67	

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Size of hatch if monthly output shows same percentage change as number of eggs in incubator on first of month. * 48 States.

Table 20.--Hatchings of replacement-type chicks, by divisions, January-June 1962, with comparisons

Division	Hens and pullets on farms Jan. 1, 1963	Chickens raised			Hatchings, Jan.-June			Eggs in incubators July 1, 1963 as a percentage of a year earlier
		1962	1963	1963 as a percentage of 1962	1962	1963	1963 as a percentage of 1962	
	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Pct.	Mil.	Mil.	Pct.	Pct.
New England	14.8	17.1	16.1	94	17.9	16.7	93	131
Middle Atlantic	37.2	29.9	28.9	97	41.0	39.8	97	122
East North Central	52.7	42.6	40.8	96	71.7	68.4	95	122
West North Central	69.9	69.0	64.8	94	107.1	101.7	95	139
South Atlantic	53.7	51.9	56.5	109	35.5	42.3	119	115
East South Central	33.0	28.8	30.0	104	16.8	18.1	108	119
West South Central	30.7	28.7	29.1	102	23.6	25.6	108	106
Mountain	7.8	7.9	7.3	92	6.8	5.8	85	104
Pacific	46.3	41.3	39.8	96	45.6	42.9	94	102
Alaska and Hawaii	1.0	.8	.8	102	.6	.6	100	---
United States	347.2	318.2	314.3	99	366.5	361.8	99	1/115

1/ Includes Alaska and Hawaii.

Table 21.--Factors indicative of number of layers to be on hand, 1947-63*

Year	Fall and winter pullet numbers and derivation									
	Chickens raised	Hatch of replacement pullet chicks 1/	Pullets on hand							
			October 1				January 1, following			
			Laying	Not yet laying	Total		Laying	Not yet laying	Total	
					As reported	As a percentage of replacement pullets hatched			As reported	As a percentage of pullets October 1 given year
	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Pct.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Pct.
1946	738		126	199	325		244	37	281	86
1947	719		131	195	326		243	35	278	85
1948	615		125	176	301		227	31	258	86
1949	705		140	185	324		255	32	287	89
1950	620		141	142	283		229	29	258	91
1951	623		143	144	288		231	30	261	91
1952	561		142	117	259		215	23	238	92
1953	548		154	112	266		231	24	255	96
1954	540		168	104	273		233	25	257	94
1955	459	324	148	94	242	75	212	27	239	99
1956	471	334	167	92	259	78	218	32	250	97
1957	394	259	144	84	228	88	195	32	227	100
1958	421	298	157	97	254	85	209	37	246	97
1959	386	270	147	85	231	86	193	32	225	97
1960	332	240	122	85	207	86	176	34	210	101
1961	345	263	146	79	225	85	182	37	219	97
1962	317	250	140	75	215	86	173	39	212	99
1963	313									

Year	Fall and winter hen numbers and derivations						
	Layers and potential layers on hand, January 1			Hens on hand			
				October 1		January 1, following	
	Hens	Pullets	Total	As reported	As percentage of hens and pullets January 1, given year	As reported	As percentage of hens October 1 given year
	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Pct.	Mil.	Pct.
1946	151	322	473	202	43	150	74
1947	150	281	431	198	46	140	71
1948	140	278	418	193	46	141	73
1949	141	258	399	184	46	137	74
1950	137	287	424	189	45	141	75
1951	141	258	399	179	45	136	76
1952	136	261	397	172	43	135	78
1953	135	238	373	156	42	116	74
1954	116	255	371	154	42	111	72
1955	111	257	369	166	45	122	73
1956	122	239	361	151	42	120	79
1957	120	250	370	165	45	129	78
1958	129	227	356	152	43	121	80
1959	121	246	367	160	44	127	79
1960	127	225	352	169	48	133	79
1961	133	210	343	153	45	130	85
1962	130	219	349	160	46	134	84
1963	134	212	346				

1/ One half of replacement chicks hatch series which began in 1955. * 48 States.

Table 22.--Shell eggs: Storage stocks, first of the month, Mainland States, 1952 to date; selected storage centers, beginning of the week, August 1962 to date

Year or week	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	Mainland States, first of the month											
	Mil. cases	Mil. cases	Mil. cases	Mil. cases	Mil. cases	Mil. cases	Mil. cases	Mil. cases	Mil. cases	Mil. cases	Mil. cases	Mil. cases
1952	0.1	0.2	0.9	1.6	2.2	3.2	3.4	2.7	2.2	1.7	1.0	0.4
1953	.2	.1	.2	.4	.8	1.4	1.5	1.2	.8	.5	.3	.1
1954	.1	.1	.1	.4	.7	1.3	1.6	1.4	1.0	.8	.6	.3
1955	.2	.2	.3	.5	1.2	2.1	2.3	2.2	1.7	1.1	.8	.3
1956	.1	.3	.3	.3	.6	1.2	1.5	1.3	1.0	.7	.6	.5
1957	.3	.3	.5	.9	1.2	1.7	1.8	1.5	1.2	.9	.6	.3
1958	.2	.2	.1	.1	.3	.7	.9	.7	.5	.3	.2	.1
1959	.1	.1	.1	.1	.5	1.0	1.1	.9	.7	.6	.5	.3
1960	.2	.3	.3	.2	.3	.8	1.1	1.0	.7	.5	.3	.1
1961	.1	.1	1/	.1	.1	.2	.4	.3	.3	.2	.1	.1
1962	1/	1/	1/	.1	.1	.3	.4	.3	.2	.2	.2	.2
1963	.1	.1	1/	.1	.1	.2	.3					
	Selected storage centers, beginning of the week											
Weeks	1963							1962				
First	0.1	1/	1/	1/	1/	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1
Second	.1	1/	1/	1/	1/	.2	.2	.2	.2	.2	.2	.1
Third	.1	1/	1/	1/	.1	.2	.2	.2	.2	.2	.2	.1
Fourth	.1	1/	1/	1/	.1	.2	.2	.2	.2	.2	.2	.1
Fifth				1/						.2		.1

1/ Less than 0.05.

Table 23.--Frozen egg: Storage stocks, first of the month, Mainland States, 1952 to date; selected storage centers, beginning of the week, August 1962 to date

Year or week	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	Mainland States, first of the month											
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
1952	67	53	61	84	111	146	166	163	144	124	95	72
1953	50	35	42	65	99	132	160	153	133	110	87	61
1954	42	38	42	92	136	167	186	181	161	139	118	95
1955	75	66	63	84	126	171	194	195	180	155	128	101
1956	74	51	42	61	95	140	172	177	168	152	132	109
1957	87	75	66	78	108	140	167	177	165	147	124	99
1958	75	64	60	53	68	101	134	140	134	117	94	73
1959	57	47	46	55	85	119	149	152	149	135	119	96
1960	79	75	78	81	90	122	157	166	158	140	114	87
1961	64	54	49	54	67	92	113	113	108	100	86	70
1962	61	49	40	48	60	85	111	122	120	113	98	77
1963	61	47	38	38	58	83	102					
	Selected storage centers, beginning of the week											
Weeks	1963							1962				
First	42	31	24	25	42	56	71	92	90	82	68	54
Second	39	30	23	27	46	61	73	92	89	81	65	51
Third	37	28	23	29	50	64	74	92	87	77	62	48
Fourth	34	27	23	34	53	68	76	92	85	73	58	45
Fifth				38						70		44

Table 24.--Frozen egg, by types: Stocks and New York wholesale prices per pound in carlots, 1956 to date

Item	Year	Unit	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Albumen:														
Stocks on first of month	1956	Million pounds	17	11	9	15	25	39	50	52	50	45	40	34
	1957	do.	28	26	24	26	33	43	53	56	52	46	39	32
	1958	do.	26	24	23	21	25	35	45	47	45	40	32	27
	1959	do.	22	19	18	20	27	33	40	39	36	33	29	24
	1960	do.	21	23	23	25	27	38	48	51	48	43	35	28
	1961	do.	22	19	17	17	20	26	29	29	27	23	20	16
	1962	do.	14	12	9	11	14	22	28	30	30	26	21	17
	1963	do.	13	10	8	7	11	17	21					
Average price, first full week of month	1956	Cents	27	28	27½	23¾	24½	23¼	23	22¼	21¾	21	18¾	17¾
	1957	do.	16¼	15¼	14¾	14	14	12½	12½	12	14	14	15	17
	1958	do.	16¼	13¾	13	13½	14½	13	13	11½	11	11¾	12¼	12
	1959	do.	11¼	11	10¾	9	10¼	10½	11	10½	10¼	9¾	9¾	9½
	1960	do.	9	8¼	8	8¼	10¾	9	8¼	7¼	7	9	9¾	10½
	1961	do.	9¾	9	9	8½	9	9	9¾	9¾	10	10¼	11½	12½
	1962	do.	12	13¾	13	11½	11	11	11	11	11½	13¾	13	13
	1963	do.	13¾	15½	16¼	14	12¾	12¾	14¼					
Yolk:														
Stocks on first of month	1956	Million pounds	23	18	15	20	29	38	44	46	41	38	32	26
	1957	do.	20	17	15	17	23	29	35	39	36	31	26	21
	1958	do.	15	12	11	10	15	26	38	37	35	30	26	20
	1959	do.	16	12	11	15	25	33	43	42	39	34	30	25
	1960	do.	20	18	19	21	21	28	38	39	37	32	27	20
	1961	do.	15	13	12	14	17	25	30	30	29	27	24	21
	1962	do.	19	15	12	15	18	24	28	30	31	31	27	22
	1963	do.	19	15	12	12	17	24	29					
Average price, first full week of month 1/	1956	Cents	54½	54½	53	50½	51¾	49½	51½	53	53½	53½	54½	54½
	1957	do.	53	52½	51½	49½	52	51½	52½	2/	52½	53½	54½	2/
	1958	do.	2/	53½	58½	62	61½	62	62	61	61	61½	61½	64
	1959	do.	61½	61¼	60½	53½	51¾	50	53	54½	54½	52½	52½	50½
	1960	do.	52	50½	56½	59	63	64	64½	64½	64	64	66½	2/
	1961	do.	2/	69	68½	60½	60½	64½	64½	64½	64½	65	64	63
	1962	do.	62	62¾	62	59	58½	58	58	58	59	60	60½	60½
	1963	do.	60½	62½	63	57½	56¼	56	57					
Mixed whole:														
Stocks on first of month	1956	Million pounds	29	19	15	22	35	56	69	71	69	63	54	44
	1957	do.	34	28	23	30	46	63	72	73	68	62	51	40
	1958	do.	29	23	21	17	23	35	46	50	48	44	33	24
	1959	do.	17	14	14	17	31	49	61	64	67	60	55	41
	1960	do.	33	30	33	33	37	50	65	71	68	61	49	36
	1961	do.	24	20	18	20	26	37	47	46	46	43	39	31
	1962	do.	26	21	18	20	27	37	52	58	56	53	47	36
	1963	do.	28	21	17	18	29	40	49					
Average price, first full week of month 3/	1956	Cents	34½	33½	2/	31¾	33½	32	32	32	31¾	30¾	28½	28¼
	1957	do.	25¼	26½	26	26	26	25¾	24¾	26	28	29	30	32
	1958	do.	29¾	29	30½	31	31¾	30¾	31¾	29¾	30	29¼	30¾	31¼
	1959	do.	31	31¾	28¼	24¾	24¾	24¼	25½	25	24¼	23¾	24¼	23½
	1960	do.	24¾	23	25¼	27¾	30½	29½	27¼	25½	27½	30½	32½	34½
	1961	do.	31¼	32½	32	30½	31½	32½	32½	32	32½	32½	31½	31
	1962	do.	28	31	30	28	27½	27	26¾	26¾	28	29	29	27¾
	1963	do.	29	31¼	32	29¼	28	28	27¾					

1/ Highest color quoted. 2/ Insufficient wholesale sales to report prices. 3/ "Spring pack" whenever quoted separately prior to April 1961; thereafter, reported as whole dark colored. "Unclassified" frozen egg is not included in this table.

Table 25.--U.S.D.A. purchases of dried and frozen egg, 1958-63

Period	Purchases				Top price per pound 1/	Cost of purchases	
	By weight		Case equivalent				
	For the period	Cumulative	For the period	Cumulative		For the period	Cumulative
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	Dollars	1,000 dollars	1,000 dollars
(a) Annual purchases of dried egg solids for school lunches and other eligible outlets							
1958	4,162	---	411	---	1.23	5,087	---
1959 2/	19,403	---	1,914	---	1.24	21,883	---
1960	19,048	---	1,905	---	1.14	20,700	---
1961	22,508	---	2,084	---	1.37	27,120	---
1962	13,014	---	1,205	---	1.11	13,297	---
(b) Monthly purchases of frozen mixed egg for later drying							
1959 3/	4,110	---	104	---	0.24	1,001	---
(c) Weekly purchases of dried whole egg for school lunches and institutional use							
1962							
March 22	540	540	50.0	50	1.11	597	597
29	675	1,215	62.5	112	1.11	719	1,317
April 5	1,323	2,538	122.5	235	1.05	1,372	2,689
12	621	3,159	57.5	292	1.05	649	3,338
19	513	3,672	47.5	340	1.03	529	3,868
26	1,215	4,887	112.5	452	1.02	1,229	5,096
May 3	891	5,778	82.5	535	1.02	902	5,999
10	918	6,696	85.0	620	1.02	937	6,936
17	648	7,344	60.0	680	1.02	662	7,598
24	540	7,884	50.0	730	1.02	553	8,151
June 1	999	8,883	92.5	882	1.02	1,022	9,173
8	945	9,828	87.5	910	1.04	967	10,140
15	783	10,611	72.5	982	1.02	802	10,942
22	162	10,773	15.0	998	1.02	166	11,107
29	756	11,529	70.0	1,068	1.01	757	11,864
July 6	783	12,312	72.5	1,140	.98	760	12,624
13	702	13,014	65.0	1,205	.96	673	13,297
(d) Weekly purchases of dried whole egg for school lunches, institutions and nonprofit children's summer camps							
1963							
April 26	1,674	1,674	155	155	1.06	1,764	1,764
May 1	1,324	2,997	122	278	1.06	1,400	3,163
8	567	3,564	52	330	1.06	600	3,764
16	513	4,077	48	378	1.06	544	4,307
23	540	4,617	50	428	1.06	572	4,880
31	270	4,887	25	452	1.06	286	5,166
June 5	972	5,859	90	542	1.05	1,022	6,187
13	702	6,561	65	607	1.05	732	6,920
21	675	7,236	62	670	1.03	692	7,612
27	675	7,911	62	732	1.02	682	8,294
July 3	486	8,397	45	777	1.02	488	8,782
Program ended as of July 3.							

1/ Rounded to the nearest cent.
2/ Surplus removal program began with week ending April 23.
3/ Program began June 18 and ended as of July 16.

LIST OF TABLES

Table	Title	Page
1	Pullet chicks placed domestically for broiler hatchery supply flocks, by months, 1961 to date with comparisons	21
2	Chickens tested for broiler hatching egg production, by months, 1961 to date with comparisons	21
3	Broiler prices per pound, selected areas, January 1956 to date	22
4	Average price received by farmers for broilers and indicators of supplies of broilers and red meat, by months, 1954 to date	23
5	United States broiler and turkey exports, total and to the Common Market, by months, 1962 to date	24
6	Consumption of broilers and turkey, by months, 1961 to date	25
7	Poultry slaughtered under Federal inspection, live weight, monthly,January 1959 to date	26
8	Poultry certified under USDA inspection, and poultry canned or used in prepared foods as a percentage of farm marketings, 1955-62	27
9	Turkey prices per pound: Selected series, by months, January 1957 to date	28
10	Turkeys: Storage stocks, Mainland States, first of the month, 1950 to date and selected storage centers beginning of the week, August 1962 to date	29
11	Turkeys: Hatchings of poults, by breed types, monthly and cumulative, September 1958 to date	30
12	Turkey hatchery operations, United States and important reporting States, January 1962 to date with comparisons	31
13	Poults hatched, by regions, September-July 1961-62 and 1962-63	32
14	Ready-to-cook turkeys: U.S.D.A. purchases, annual 1951-60,by weeks 1959-62	33
15	Feed units required per unit of eggs and poultry production, 1940-62	34
16	Egg prices, selected dates, 1963 with comparisons	35
17	Number of layers on farms, rate of egg production, and total egg output on farms, by months, January 1956 to date	36
18	Factors in monthly supply of shell eggs, 1960 to date	37
19	Monthly hatchings of replacement-type chicks, and chickens raised, 1957 to date	38
20	Hatchings of replacement-type chicks, by division, January-June 1962 with comparisons	38
21	Factors indicative of number of layers to be on hand, 1947-63	39
22	Shell eggs: Storage stocks, first of the month, Mainland States, 1952 to date; selected storage centers beginning of the week, August 1962 to date	40
23	Frozen egg: Storage stocks, first of the month, Mainland States, 1952 to date; selected storage centers beginning of the week, August 1962 to date	40
24	Frozen egg, by types: Stocks and New York wholesale prices per pound in carlots, 1956 to date	41
25	U.S.D.A. purchases of dried and frozen egg, 1958-62	42

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